

# LITERARY SELECTIONS FROM NEWMAN

WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES BY  
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## PREFACE.

ISOLATED passages in literature, however great their intrinsic value, cannot but lose much by separation from their context. Yet they often induce the casual reader to take up the study of a particular author, for they give him a pledge of the delight that awaits him if he care to pursue it. An attempt has here been made to select certain chapters from Cardinal Newman's writings which, while relatively complete in themselves, are sufficiently characteristic of the works from which they are taken to induce the reader to seek for the perfected beauty of the gem in its setting.

Newman wrote so much and on so many topics, his literary form and style are so infinitely varied, that it is difficult within a small compass to give an adequate impression of the versatility of his genius. These selections, therefore, are not completely representative, as, with the exception of the *Apologia*, none of his polemical or strictly controversial works have been laid under contribution. This, in one way, detracts from the value of the book, for it means the exclusion of the *Oxford Sermons* with their perfect style, their wealth of illustration, their knowledge of the human heart; of the later *Sermons* with their strength, their irony and, at times, their delicate beauty; of the *Grammar of Assent* with its wonderfully subtle powers of analysis and expression; of the *Lectures on Anglican and Catholic Questions with their unexpected humour*, their keen satire, their irresistible logic. Yet Newman, the man of letters, is so often overshadowed by Newman, the theologian, that it has been thought worth while to keep back some of his best work in order to show how excellent is the good that remains.

The student who wishes to make a closer acquaintance

with Newman's writings might begin with *The Idea of a University*; this could be followed by his lectures on *The Present Position of Catholics, Some Anglican Difficulties, Historical Sketches*, and his *Letters*, edited by Anne Mozley. Noteworthy among his *Sermons* are "The Parting of Friends," his farewell sermon in the Anglican Church, and "The Second Spring" which Macaulay, it is said, knew by heart. Nor must the reader be kept back by the unattractive titles of Newman's works, for his fulfilment, unlike that of many present-day writers, always exceeds his promise.

Newman was not a great poet. Though verse-making was, as he once wrote, the only kind of composition which was not troublesome to him, yet he realised that he had not time for the practice which its perfection demands. Elsewhere, he says of himself, what Matthew Arnold says of Wordsworth, that he is unable to decide what is good and what is poor in his poetical work. That it is, on the whole, unequal, and occasionally weak none will deny; but that he had genuine poetic feeling and no small gift of poetic expression is abundantly evident in such fragments as *Judaism* and in such lyrics as *Lead, Kindly Light*. *The Dream of Gerontius*, it has been said, "stands alone in the literature of the world". At once a masterpiece of psychological analysis and a revelation of the most tender piety, it is likely to find a permanent place in English mystical poetry.

Cardinal Newman's long life falls into two equal periods. The story of the first part, ending with his reception into the Catholic Church, is told by himself in his *Apologia*. Dr. Barry's well-balanced and finely discriminating *Newman*, and Mr R. H. Hutton's sympathetic study repay reading; but, as the late Mr. Andrew Lang remarked, "perhaps this great and good man is most intelligible in his *Life* by Mr. Wilfrid Ward".

NOTRE DAME TRAINING COLLEGE,  
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## SUMMARY OF EVENTS IN CARDINAL NEWMAN'S LIFE.

1801. Born in London.
1808. Sent to a private school at Ealing, where he gave early signs of literary taste and activity.
1817. Entered into residence at Trinity College, Oxford.
1822. Elected Fellow of Oriel College.
1824. Took Anglican Orders. Accepted Curacy of St. Clement's, Oxford.
1825. Appointed Vice-Principal of Alban Hall by Bishop Whately.
1827. Publication of Keble's *Christian Year*.
1828. Appointed Vicar of St. Mary's, Oxford.
1832. Publication of *History of the Arians*. Sojourn in Southern Europe.
1833. Keble's *Assize Sermon*. Beginning of the Oxford Movement.
1841. Publication of Tract 90.
1843. Resigned living of St. Mary's.
1845. Publication of essay on *Development of Christian Doctrine*. Received into the Catholic Church by Father Dominic, at Littlemore.
1846. Ordained at Rome by Cardinal Franzoni.
1847. Returned to England.
1849. Founded Oratory of St. Philip Neri at Birmingham.
1850. Founded London Oratory.
1852. The Achilli libel trial. *Idea of a University*.
1854. Appointed Rector of the new Catholic University, Dublin.
1859. Founded the Edgbaston Oratory School.
1864. Publication of *Apologia pro Vita Sua*.
1865. Publication of *The Dream of Gerontius*.
1870. Publication of *A Grammar of Assent*.
1877. Elected Honorary Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford.
1879. Created Cardinal-Deacon by Pope Leo XIII.
1890. Died at the Oratory, Birmingham.  
“Ex umbris et imaginibus in veritatem.”



## INTRODUCTION.

PERHAPS in the whole range of English Literature no writer has exercised more influence, no writer has won more sympathy, no writer has had more charm, even for unwilling ears, than John Henry Cardinal Newman. It would seem then almost paradoxical to say that few of our great writers are so little read by the general public; yet the fact remains that to many Newman is little more than a name, while Arnold and Pater, who probably owe much of their delicacy and clearness to his influence, are, relatively at least, widely read and appreciated. And the reason is not far to seek: Newman was a great force in the religious thought of the nineteenth century; he stood for a cause, and with that cause his name must ever be rightly associated. But we are apt to forget, and the titles of his works do not serve to remind us, that he was no less a force in modern English Literature; that his writings belong "not to provincial dogma, but to the literature of all time". It is true that Religion was to him as the very air he breathed, inspiring all that he taught, pervading all that he wrote; yet among the forty volumes that he has left there is much that will appeal to the cultured reader, no matter how great his dislike for religious controversy or dogma.

The unusually wide range of Newman's natural gifts and attainments has caused many of his readers to dwell exclusively on one or other. They have, so to speak, lost sight of the wood because of the trees, and have thus formed a personal estimate of him which falls far short of the truth.

Mr. Wilfrid Ward points this out very definitely in the introduction to his admirable *Life of Newman* :—

“ John Henry Newman is indeed himself a most remarkable instance of one of his own most characteristic contentions, that the same object may be seen by different onlookers under aspects so various and partial as to make their views, from their inadequacy, appear occasionally even contradictory. . . . While to some Newman is before all things else a religious philosopher — and he has been compared with Pascal — there are others, like Lord Morley, who appear to see in him little more than a great master of English prose, who is hardly to be reckoned as a thinker at all. By yet others he has been placed in the category of the great ecclesiastical writers in history, the eloquence and force in some of his later sermons suggesting a comparison with Bossuet; his personal charm and delicate balance of mind recalling Fénelon. English Catholics think of him primarily as the great defender of their religion against Mr. Kingsley, Dr. Pusey and Mr. Gladstone; as the man who has annihilated High Church Anglicanism and the bombast of Exeter Hall in the lectures of 1849 and 1851. Yet, the champion who entered the lists on behalf of the Roman claims in 1849 is still hailed by many as the founder of Modern Anglicanism. There are, on the other hand, thousands for whom Newman’s writings belong, to use Dean Stanley’s phrase, ‘not to provincial dogma but to the literature of all time.’ He is for them the author of the Oxford Sermons with their matchless insight into human nature; the religious poet who wrote *The Dream of Gerontius* and *Lead, Kindly Light*; while the *Apologia* belongs in their eyes to the literature of self-revelation, and not to apologetic. To others, again, he is the theologian who has an almost unequalled knowledge of the first three centuries of Church history. Such was Döllinger’s estimate of him. And by some he was for long chiefly thought of as the greatest exponent of the views of the minority at the Vatican Council.”

Newman was truly each of these, but the fact that he was as truly all of these is overlooked by many; and this personal and partial estimate, is perhaps, the most influential reason why he has not received wider and more general recognition as one of the most distinguished men of letters in the nineteenth century. Literature is the artistic expression of the thought of thinking souls; it is character passing into words; it is, to use Newman's own definition, "a man's mental and moral character imaged in his language". Now, the mere stylist writes for writing's sake; the author writes for truth's sake, because he is compelled by an inward force to give utterance to the ideas and theories which are the outcome of his personal experience, reflection and judgment. Newman holds that an author need not necessarily have great depth of thought, great breadth of view, or wide experience, though he is great in proportion as these are great; but it is imperative that he should think for himself, that he should be able to clothe his thought in language which must be clear and direct and, if possible, beautiful and attractive. Thought and expression are inseparable; if, therefore, we wish to examine the claims of any writer to a niche in the temple of English Literature we must apply this test to his work.

Lord Morley is not alone in his depreciation of Newman's power as a thinker. The 'provincial' mind of Carlyle concluded that "he had no more brains than a rabbit," and there are, indeed, many whose mental constitution makes it impossible for them to treat his work even with that sympathy which comprehends though it cannot approve. If to be a thinker implies the destruction of what is old and tried merely because it is old; if it implies the rejection of objective truth because it cannot be subjectively proved; if it implies the negation of all that transcends individual, or even general, human experience; if it implies breaking away from a safe anchorage, and drifting into unknown and peril-

## INTRODUCTION

ous seas; if it implies a man's freedom to formulate a personal religion, and to live independent of all spiritual authority; then was Newman not a thinker. But, if to be a thinker implies patient investigation, rare discernment and sound judgment; if it implies willingness to make any and every sacrifice, to count the world well lost in the cause of Truth; if it implies that a man has given to the world ideas which have influenced the minds and lives of many whose sincerity is as unimpeachable as their intellectual power, then may John Henry Newman be counted among the great thinkers of modern times.

It is impossible in a short introduction such as this to give an adequate account of the great body of work Newman has bequeathed to English Literature. His forty volumes touch upon many questions, and range over many literary forms—sermons, essays, novels, poems—many thrown off hurriedly in a white heat, others studied and polished, yet all bearing the stamp of a master hand guided by a master mind. We purpose therefore merely to comment on those personal characteristics of Newman which are so clearly mirrored in his literary work and style. And first we may note his indisputable sincerity and candour. He wrote, as he acted, from conviction. No man ever "followed the gleam" with more earnestness and singleness of purpose than Newman. There are many who cannot see eye to eye with him, and who question his conclusions; but, though they doubt his sufficiency, they do not and cannot doubt his sincerity. This sincerity it is which gives to his work that air of inevitableness which makes it so convincing. We feel that he writes because he has a message to deliver, that he is so impressed by the truth at which he has arrived that he must needs impart it. He is not, in a sense, free to give or to withhold, he must communicate the results of his thought and experience to others. "As to my *Essay on Assent*," he writes, "it is a subject which has haunted me for these

twenty or thirty years. I have a succession of commencement-speeches, perhaps a dozen, each different from the other, and each in a different year, which came to nothing." This sincerity is further seen in the absolute clearness and simplicity of his style. Literary Expression is to him a means not an end. To make his thought transparently clear, to convey an exact truth, to place a fact in full light without risk of mist or cloud—this was his constant aim. Hence there is no striving for mere rhetorical effect, no sacrifice of truth for the sake of an epigram. If at times he may seem to listen to himself, it is plainly in order that there may be no uncertainty in the message he delivers. As Dr. Barry remarks: "there is nothing put in for ornament's sake or for rhetoric, nothing put in for the mere sake of anything else, but all for its own sake". He has no mannerisms, no affectations. Few, if any, of his simple, direct sentences are likely to pass into proverbs, yet each has its own independent value and is compact with meaning. Here, too, we may remark on the simplicity of his diction, on his freedom from that tendency to use archaic forms, or to coin grotesque words, which disfigures the work of at least one of his contemporaries. He employs current golden coin of the realm, standard English. He has, too, an absolute genius, possibly inherited from his French ancestors, for choosing the right word, the word which conveys exactly the shade of meaning he wishes to convey.

Not less than his outstanding sincerity, and closely allied with it, was his great gift of sympathy. His extraordinary power of psychological analysis and insight made him realise all aspects of a man's character, all sides of an argument. He did not merely project himself into the minds of others, but he seemed actually to think with their minds, to see with their eyes, to realise in himself their personal and characteristic difficulties. He was always able to discern the spark of truth which lay almost stifled under

the ashes of error, to separate the few good grains which yet remained in the chaff. We do not therefore find in his work any intolerance of the views of others. He does not assume that his opponents are in bad faith, nor does he imply that their arguments are unworthy of serious consideration; on the contrary, he is often at pains to show the apparent reasonableness of their claims. His object is not to take the position of the foe by storm, but rather to induce him by gentle persuasion to alter it. It was this characteristic sympathy, too, which made it well-nigh impossible for Newman to become a leader in the active sense of the word; he saw so clearly how difficult it is to pronounce any system absolutely good or bad, how dangerous it is to praise or blame unreservedly, that he could not give up to party what was meant for mankind. But he never condoned error or minimised evil in any form, though some have mistaken his clear understanding of their principles for a sympathy implying approbation and assent. It is in his letters to his friends that his marvellous power of sympathetic insight is, perhaps, best revealed. He knows exactly what will appeal directly to his particular correspondent, he knows the best avenues of approach both to his mind and to his heart.

Sensitiveness, an essential quality of the artistic temperament, was one of Newman's most marked characteristics. He had the seeing eye, the listening ear of the poet, quick to receive impressions from without, quick to transmute them into something personal. In his essay on the *Site of a University* he shows how differently a beautiful scene may affect the poetic and the prosaic mind; and the description in one of his early letters of a sunset in the Mediterranean glows with the colour of one of Turner's pictures. His natural gift for music is reflected in the melodious diction, the matchless rhythm, the stately harmony of his prose. As he is master of every literary form so is he master of every variety of sentence structure. He excels in the short, terse

sentence ; he excels equally in the longer form. Like Macaulay he piles up word upon word, phrase upon phrase, clause upon clause, prolonging the close of the sentence in order to fill the cadence ; but while Macaulay's style is sometimes hard and metallic, Newman's is always supple and musical. With an ear so sensitive he could not but have been influenced by the style of other writers ; he tells us that he consciously imitated Cicero, Johnson, Gibbon and Addison ; but he is no more indebted to them for his style than was Shakespeare indebted to his sources for his plays. His movement varies with the character of his theme ; at one time he has the solemn stateliness of Pater, at another the calm deliberation of Matthew Arnold, while there are times when he presses forward with what Mr. Birrell calls "a torrent of captivating rhetoric".

His intellectual sensitiveness was at once his weakness and his strength, his cross and his crown. It made him the most sympathetic and affectionate of friends, it made him the most lonely of sufferers. How deeply he felt misunderstanding and misrepresentation is evidenced by the *Apologia*. There are many who think that Newman was ungenerous to his foe, that he did not use his giant strength mercifully. It is true that the combatants were unequally matched, that the blunderbuss of Kingsley was of little avail against the delicate rapier thrusts of Newman's terrible irony and sarcasm ; yet when we realise what Kingsley's unprovoked and unfounded charge must have meant to a man of Newman's mental and moral fibre, we cannot but see the strict justice of the punishment, even while we acknowledge its severity. Nor need we necessarily infer that the omissions in the second edition were any indication that Newman's conscience smote him for undue severity. As a recent writer on this subject justly remarks : "those who rightly appreciate Newman's motives will recognise that the severity of the first edition came not from anger or animosity but

from a keen sense of justice and intellectual honesty ; that in the second edition he took compassion on his unfortunate assailant, and tempered his justice with a large amount of mercy". Though the omission of Kingsley's name involved the omission of some of the most brilliant passages of satire in the *Apologia*, the author with characteristic generosity did not count the cost of the sacrifice.

Newman tells us that as a child his mind ran on unknown influences ; he wished the *Arabian Nights* were true ; he thought that he might be an angel, life a dream, the world a deception. This faculty of imagination developed with years and became one of his most valuable literary assets. He had a marvellous power of visualisation ; persons, places and incidents are sketched by his magic pen with a realism that makes it difficult for the reader to believe that they are creations and not memory pictures. *The Dream of Gerontius* shows an almost Dantean power of describing supernatural experiences ; the invasion of the locusts in *Callista* is one of the finest pieces of imaginative description in English Literature. And scattered throughout his sermons and lectures are many predictions and forecasts which from their minuteness of detail almost lead us to invest him with the qualities of a seer. Yet Newman was no mere dreamer or visionary. He possessed the judicial faculty in a high degree. No man ever paused more cautiously before making an important decision ; no man was ever more scrupulous in weighing and discriminating between rival claims. He was the most subtle of logicians, but, as Dr. Barry says, "he believed in implicit logic, varied and converging proofs, indirect demonstration, assent, in short, not in a mechanical echo of the syllogism, but a vital act, distinct and determined". In his argumentative works he marshals his facts before us, bidding us examine each carefully ; then, with masterly skill he groups them together, and invites us to accept the inevitable generalisation. There are many who question the

validity of his conclusions ; there are few, indeed, who can disprove them.

We judge a man's character, in great measure, by his ideals, we judge his life, though, perhaps, in less measure, by his realisation of these ideals. In reading Mr. Wilfrid Ward's *Life* we cannot fail to see how closely the great Cardinal approximated to many of the noble ideals embodied in his works ; how his own subtle delineation of a 'gentleman' was an unconscious yet faithful presentment of himself ; how his estimate of what a University education may do for a man, was, indeed, what Oxford had done for him ; how the clear mystical vision and other-worldliness of *Callista* was but the reflection of the rare beauty of his own spiritual nature. Newman's complex character, " compounded of many simples," possessed a wonderful charm and graciousness which make him the most attractive and persuasive of writers. If we have said nothing of his wide scholarship, his culture and his attainments, it is because these things come to a man from without, and are, more or less, accidental. Our aim has been to show how truly Newman's work is the expression of his inner self ; how the tone of distinction which marks all that he has written is the echo of the nobility and saintliness of his personal character. His motto, *Cor ad cor loquitur*, was, indeed, the keynote of his life, the secret of his universal appeal. To speak to the hearts of men from the fulness of his own great heart ; to guide them by that "Kindly Light" which he himself had followed with such rare singleness of purpose ; to strengthen them in the faith that death is not an eternal sleep, but the soul's true awakening at "the dear feet of Emmanuel," this was his aim, this was his one ambition.

Through such souls alone  
God, stooping, shows sufficient of His light  
For us i' the dark to rise by.



## LITERARY SELECTIONS FROM NEWMAN'S WORKS.

### KNOWLEDGE ITS OWN END.

A UNIVERSITY may be considered with reference either to its Students or to its Studies ; and the principle, that all Knowledge is a whole and the separate Sciences parts of one, which I have hitherto been using in behalf of its studies, is equally important when we direct our attention to its students. 5 Now then I turn to the students, and shall consider the education which, by virtue of this principle, a University will give them ; and thus I shall be introduced, Gentlemen, to the second question, which I proposed to discuss, viz. whether and in what sense its teaching, viewed relatively to the 10 taught, carries the attribute of Utility along with it.

#### 1.

I have said that all branches of knowledge are connected together, because the subject-matter of knowledge is intimately united in itself, as being the acts and the work of the Creator. Hence it is that the Sciences, into which our know- 15 ledge may be said to be cast, have multiplied bearings one on another, and an internal sympathy, and admit, or rather demand, comparison and adjustment. They complete, correct, balance each other. This consideration, if well-founded, must be taken into account, not only as regards the attain- 20 ment of truth, which is their common end, but as regards the influence which they exercise upon those whose education

consists in the study of them. I have said already, that to give undue prominence to one is to be unjust to another ; to neglect or supersede these is to divert those from their proper object. It is to unsettle the boundary lines between science and science, to disturb their action, to destroy the harmony 5 which binds them together. Such a proceeding will have a corresponding effect when introduced into a place of education. There is no science but tells a different tale, when viewed as a portion of a whole, from what it is likely to suggest when taken by itself, without the safeguard, as I may 10 call it, of others.

Let me make use of an illustration. In the combination of colours, very different effects are produced by a difference in their selection and juxtaposition ; red, green, and white change their shades, according to the contrast to which they 15 are submitted. And, in like manner, the drift and meaning of a branch of knowledge varies with the company in which it is introduced to the student. If his reading is confined simply to one subject, however such division of labour may favour the advancement of a particular pursuit, a point into 20 which I do not here enter, certainly it has a tendency to contract his mind. If it is incorporated with others, it depends on those others as to the kind of influence which it exerts upon him. Thus the Classics, which in England are the means of refining the taste, have in France subserved the 25 spread of revolutionary and deistical doctrines. In Metaphysics, again, Butler's *Analogy of Religion*, which has had so much to do with the conversion to the Catholic faith of members of the University of Oxford, appeared to Pitt and others, who had received a different training, to operate only 30 in the direction of infidelity. And so again, Watson, Bishop of Llandaff, as I think he tells us in the narrative of his life, felt the science of Mathematics to indispose the mind to religious belief, while others see in its investigations the best parallel, and thereby defence, of the Christian Mysteries. 35

In like manner, I suppose, Arcesilas would not have handled logic as Aristotle, nor Aristotle have criticized poets as Plato; yet reasoning and poetry are subject to scientific rules.

It is a great point then to enlarge the range of studies which a University professes, even for the sake of the 5 students; and, though they cannot pursue every subject which is open to them, they will be the gainers by living among those and under those who represent the whole circle. This I conceive to be the advantage of a seat of universal . learning, considered as a place of education. An assemblage 10 of learned men, zealous for their own sciences, and rivals of each other, are brought, by familiar intercourse and for the sake of intellectual peace, to adjust together the claims and relations of their respective subjects of investigation. They learn to respect, to consult, to aid each other. Thus is 15 created a pure and clear atmosphere of thought, which the student also breathes, though in his own case he only pursues . a few sciences out of the multitude. He profits by an intellectual tradition, which is independent of particular teachers, which guides him in his choice of subjects, and duly interprets 20 for him those which he chooses. He apprehends the great outlines of knowledge, the principles on which it rests, the scale of its parts, its lights and its shades, its great points and its little, as he otherwise cannot apprehend them. Hence it is that his education is called "Liberal". A habit of mind 25 is formed which lasts through life, of which the attributes are, freedom, equitableness, calmness, moderation, and wisdom; or what in a former Discourse I have ventured to call a philosophical habit. This then I would assign as the special fruit of the education furnished at a University, as contrasted 30 with other places of teaching or modes of teaching. This is the main purpose of a University in its treatment of its students.

And now the question is asked me, What is the *use* of it? and my answer will constitute the main subject of the Discourses which are to follow.

## 2.

Cautious and practical thinkers, I say, will ask of me, what, after all, is the gain of this Philosophy, of which I make such account, and from which I promise so much. Even supposing it to enable us to exercise the degree of trust exactly due to every science respectively, and to estimate precisely the 5 value of every truth which is anywhere to be found, how are we better for this master view of things, which I have been extolling? Does it not reverse the principle of the division of labour? will practical objects be obtained better or worse by its cultivation? to what then does it lead? where does it 10 end? what does it do? how does it profit? what does it promise? Particular sciences are respectively the basis of definite arts, which carry on to results tangible and beneficial the truths which are the subjects of the knowledge attained; what is the Art of this science of sciences? what is the fruit 15 of such a Philosophy? what are we proposing to effect, what inducements do we hold out to the Catholic community, when we set about the enterprise of founding a University?

I am asked what is the end of University Education, and of the Liberal or Philosophical Knowledge which I conceive 20 it to impart: I answer, that what I have already said has been sufficient to show that it has a very tangible, real, and sufficient end, though the end cannot be divided from that knowledge itself. Knowledge is capable of being its own end. Such is the constitution of the human mind, that any kind of 25 knowledge, if it be really such, is its own reward. And if this is true of all knowledge, it is true also of that special Philosophy, which I have made to consist in a comprehensive view of truth in all its branches, of the relations of science to science, of their mutual bearings, and their respective values. 30 What the worth of such an acquirement is, compared with other objects which we seek,—wealth or power or honour or the conveniences and comforts of life, I do not profess here

to discuss ; but I would maintain, and mean to show, that it is an object, in its own nature so really and undeniably good, as to be the compensation of a great deal of thought in the compassing, and a great deal of trouble in the attaining.

Now, when I say that Knowledge is, not merely a means to something beyond it, or the preliminary of certain arts into which it naturally resolves, but an end sufficient to rest in and to pursue for its own sake, surely I am uttering no paradox, for I am stating what is both intelligible in itself, and has ever been the common judgment of philosophers and the ordinary feeling of mankind. I am saying what at least the public opinion of this day ought to be slow to deny, considering how much we have heard of late years, in opposition to Religion, of entertaining, curious, and various knowledge. I am but saying what whole volumes have been written to illustrate, viz. by a "selection from the records of Philosophy, Literature, and Art, in all ages and countries, of a body of examples, to show how the most unpropitious circumstances have been unable to conquer an ardent desire for the acquisition of knowledge".<sup>1</sup> That further advantages accrue to us and redound to others by its possession, over and above what it is in itself, I am very far indeed from denying ; but, independent of these, we are satisfying a direct need of our nature in its very acquisition ; and, whereas our nature, unlike that of the inferior creation, does not at once reach its perfection, but depends, in order to it, on a number of external aids and appliances, Knowledge, as one of the principal of these, is valuable for what its very presence in us does for us after the manner of a habit, even though it be turned to no further account, nor subserve any direct end.

30

## 3.

Hence it is that Cicero, in enumerating the various heads of mental excellence, lays down the pursuit of Knowledge for

<sup>1</sup> *Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties.* Introd.

its own sake, as the first of them. "This pertains most of all to human nature," he says, "for we are all of us drawn to the pursuit of Knowledge; in which to excel we consider excellent, whereas to mistake, to err, to be ignorant, to be deceived, is both an evil and a disgrace."<sup>1</sup> And he considers 5 Knowledge the very first object to which we are attracted, after the supply of our physical wants. After the calls and duties of our animal existence, as they may be termed, as regards ourselves, our family, and our neighbours, follows, he tells us, "the search after truth. Accordingly, as soon as we 10 escape from the pressure of necessary cares, forthwith we desire to see, to hear, and to learn; and consider the knowledge of what is hidden or is wonderful a condition of our happiness."

This passage, though it is but one of many similar passages 15 in a multitude of authors, I take for the very reason that it is so familiarly known to us; and I wish you to observe, Gentlemen, how distinctly it separates the pursuit of Knowledge from those ulterior objects to which certainly it can be made to conduce, and which are, I suppose, solely contemplated by the persons who would ask of me the use of a University or Liberal Education. So far from dreaming of the cultivation of Knowledge directly and mainly in order to our physical comfort and enjoyment, for the sake of life and person, of health, of the conjugal and family union, of the 25 social tie and civil security, the great Orator implies, that it is only after our physical and political needs are supplied, and when we are "free from necessary duties and cares," that we are in a condition for "desiring to see, to hear, and to learn". Nor does he contemplate in the least degree the 30 reflex or subsequent action of Knowledge, when acquired, upon those material goods which we set out by securing before we seek it; on the contrary, he expressly denies its

<sup>1</sup> Cicer. Offic. init.

bearing upon social life altogether, strange as such a procedure is to those who live after the rise of the Baconian philosophy, and he cautions us against such a cultivation of it as will interfere with our duties to our fellow-creatures. "All these methods," he says, "are engaged in the investigation of truth; by the pursuit of which to be carried off from public occupations is a transgression of duty. For the praise of virtue lies altogether in action; yet intermissions often occur, and then we recur to such pursuits; not to say that the incessant activity of the mind is vigorous enough to carry us on in the pursuit of knowledge, even without any exertion of our own." The idea of benefiting society by means of "the pursuit of science and knowledge," did not enter at all into the motives which he would assign for their cultivation. 15

This was the ground of the opposition which the elder Cato made to the introduction of Greek Philosophy among his countrymen, when Carneades and his companions, on occasion of their embassy, were charming the Roman youth with their eloquent expositions of it. The fit representative of a practical people, Cato estimated everything by what it produced; whereas the Pursuit of Knowledge promised nothing beyond Knowledge itself. He despised that refinement or enlargement of mind of which he had no experience. 20

## 4.

Things, which can bear to be cut off from everything else and yet persist in living, must have life in themselves; pursuits, which issue in nothing, and still maintain their ground for ages, which are regarded as admirable, though they have not as yet proved themselves to be useful, must have their sufficient end in themselves, whatever it turn out to be. And we are brought to the same conclusion by considering the force of the epithet, by which the knowledge under consideration is popularly designated. It is common 30

to speak of “*liberal knowledge*,” of the “*liberal arts and studies*,” and of a “*liberal education*,” as the especial characteristic or property of a University and of a gentleman; what is really meant by the word? Now, first, in its grammatical sense it is opposed to *servile*; and by “*servile work*” is understood, as our catechisms inform us, bodily labour, mechanical employment, and the like, in which the mind has little or no part. Parallel to such servile works are those arts, if they deserve the name, of which the poet speaks,<sup>1</sup> which owe their origin and their method to hazard,<sup>10</sup> not to skill; as, for instance, the practice and operations of an empiric. As far as this contrast may be considered as a guide into the meaning of the word, liberal education and liberal pursuits are exercises of mind, of reason, of reflection.

But we want something more for its explanation, for<sup>15</sup> there are bodily exercises which are liberal, and mental exercises which are not so. For instance, in ancient times the practitioners in medicine were commonly slaves; yet it was an art as intellectual in its nature, in spite of the pretence, fraud, and quackery with which it might then, as now, be<sup>20</sup> debased, as it was heavenly in its aim. And so in like manner, we contrast a liberal education with a commercial education or a professional; yet no one can deny that commerce and the professions afford scope for the highest and most diversified powers of mind. There is then a great<sup>25</sup> variety of intellectual exercises, which are not technically called “*liberal*;” on the other hand, I say, there are exercises of the body which do receive that appellation. Such, for instance, was the palæstra, in ancient times; such the Olympic games, in which strength and dexterity of body<sup>30</sup> as well as of mind gained the prize. In Xenophon we read of the young Persian nobility being taught to ride on horse-

<sup>1</sup> Τέχνη τύχην ἔστερξε καὶ τύχη τέχνην.

Vid. Arist. *Nic. Ethic.* vi.

back and to speak the truth ; both being among the accomplishments of a gentleman. War, too, however rough a profession, has ever been accounted liberal, unless in cases when it becomes heroic, which would introduce us to another subject.

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Now comparing these instances together, we shall have no difficulty in determining the principle of this apparent variation in the application of the term which I am examining. Manly games, or games of skill, or military prowess, though bodily, are, it seems, accounted liberal ; on the other hand, what is merely professional, though highly intellectual, nay, though liberal in comparison of trade and manual labour, is not simply called liberal, and mercantile occupations are not liberal at all. Why this distinction ? because that alone is liberal knowledge, which stands on its own pretensions, 15 which is independent of sequel, expects no complement, refuses to be *informed* (as it is called) by any end, or absorbed into any art, in order duly to present itself to our contemplation. The most ordinary pursuits have this specific character, if they are self-sufficient and complete ; the highest 20 lose it, when they minister to something beyond them. It is absurd to balance, in point of worth and importance, a treatise on reducing fractures with a game of cricket or a fox-chase ; yet of the two the bodily exercise has that quality which we call "liberal," and the intellectual has it not. And 25 so of the learned professions altogether, considered merely as professions ; although one of them be the most popularly beneficial, and another the most politically important, and the third the most intimately divine of all human pursuits, yet the very greatness of their end, the health of the body, 30 or of the commonwealth, or of the soul, diminishes, not increases, their claim to the appellation "liberal," and that still more, if they are cut down to the strict exigencies of that end. If, for instance, Theology instead of being cultivated as a contemplation, be limited to the purposes of the 35

pulpit or be represented by the catechism, it loses,—not its usefulness, not its divine character, not its meritoriousness, (rather it gains a claim upon these titles by such charitable condescension),—but it does lose the particular attribute which I am illustrating ; just as a face worn by tears and 5 fasting loses its beauty, or a labourer's hand loses its delicateness ;—for Theology thus exercised is not simple knowledge, but rather is an art or a business making use of Theology. And thus it appears that even what is supernatural need not be liberal, nor need a hero be a gentleman, for the plain 10 reason that one idea is not another idea. And in like manner the Baconian Philosophy, by using its physical sciences in the service of man, does thereby transfer them from the order of Liberal Pursuits to, I do not say the inferior, but the distinct class of the Useful. And, to take a different instance, 15 hence again, as is evident, whenever personal gain is the motive, still more distinctive an effect has it upon the character of a given pursuit; thus racing, which was a liberal exercise in Greece, forfeits its rank in times like these, so far as it is made the occasion of gambling. 20

All that I have been now saying is summed up in a few characteristic words of the great Philosopher. “ Of possessions,” he says, “ those rather are useful, which bear fruit ; those *liberal*, which tend to enjoyment. By fruitful, I mean, which yield revenue ; by enjoyable, where *nothing* 25 accrues of consequence beyond the using.”<sup>1</sup>

## 5.

Do not suppose, that in thus appealing to the ancients, I am throwing back the world two thousand years, and fettering Philosophy with the reasonings of paganism. While the world lasts, will Aristotle's doctrine on these matters last, 30 for he is the oracle of nature and of truth. While we are men, we cannot help, to a great extent, being Aristotelians,

<sup>1</sup> *Aristot. Rhet.* i. 5.

for the great master does but analyse the thoughts, feelings, views, and opinions of human kind. He has told us the meaning of our own words and ideas, before we were born. In many subject-matters, to think correctly, is to think like Aristotle; and we are his disciples whether we will or no, 5 though we may not know it. Now, as to the particular instance before us, the word "liberal" as applied to Knowledge and Education, expresses a specific idea, which ever has been, and ever will be, while the nature of man is the same, just . as the idea of the Beautiful is specific, or of the Sublime, or 10 of the Ridiculous, or of the Sordid. It is in the world now, it was in the world then; and, as in the case of the dogmas of faith, it is illustrated by a continuous historical tradition, and never was out of the world, from the time it came into it. There have indeed been differences of opinion from time 15 to time, as to what pursuits and what arts came under that idea, but such differences are but an additional evidence of its reality. That idea must have a substance in it, which has maintained its ground amid these conflicts and changes, which has ever served as a standard to measure things withal, 20 which has passed from mind to mind unchanged, when there was so much to colour, so much to influence any notion or thought whatever, which was not founded in our very nature. Were it a mere generalization, it would have varied with the subjects from which it was generalized: but though its sub- 25 jects vary with the age, it varies not itself. The palaestra may seem a liberal exercise to Lycurgus, and illiberal to Seneca; coach-driving and prize-fighting may be recognized in Elis, and be condemned in England; music may be despicable in the eyes of certain moderns, and be in the highest 30 place with Aristotle and Plato,—(and the case is the same in the particular application of the idea of Beauty, or of Goodness, or of Moral Virtue, there is a difference of tastes, a difference of judgments)—still these variations imply, instead of discrediting, the archetypal idea, which is but a previous 35

hypothesis or condition, by means of which issue is joined between contending opinions and without which there would be nothing to dispute about.

I consider, then, that I am chargeable with no paradox, when I speak of a Knowledge which is its own end, when I call it liberal knowledge, or a gentleman's knowledge, when I educate for it, and make it the scope of a University. And still less am I incurring such a charge, when I make this acquisition consist, not in Knowledge in a vague and ordinary sense, but in that Knowledge which I have especially called Philosophy, or, in an extended sense of the word, Science; for whatever claims Knowledge has to be considered as a good, these it has in a higher degree when it is viewed not vaguely, not popularly, but precisely and transcendently as Philosophy. Knowledge, I say, is then especially liberal, or sufficient for itself, apart from every external and ulterior object, when and so far as it is philosophical, and this I proceed to show.

## 6.

Now bear with me, Gentlemen, if what I am about to say, has at first sight a fanciful appearance. Philosophy, then, or Science, is related to Knowledge in this way:—Knowledge is called by the name of Science or Philosophy, when it is acted upon, informed, or if I may use a strong figure, impregnated by Reason. Reason is the principle of that intrinsic fecundity of Knowledge, which, to those who possess it, is its especial value, and which dispenses with the necessity of their looking abroad for any end to rest upon external to itself. Knowledge, indeed, when thus exalted into a scientific form, is also power; not only is it excellent in itself, but whatever such excellence may be, it is something more, it has a result beyond itself. Doubtless; but that is a further consideration, with which I am not concerned. I only say that, prior to its being a power, it is a

good ; that it is, not only an instrument, but an end. I know well it may resolve itself into an art, and terminate in a mechanical process, and in tangible fruit; but it also may fall back upon that Reason which informs it, and resolve itself into Philosophy. In one case it is called Useful Knowledge, in the other Liberal. The same person may cultivate it in both ways at once ; but this again is a matter foreign to my subject; here I do but say that there are two ways of using Knowledge, and in matter of fact those who use it in one way are not likely to use it in the other, or at least in a very limited measure. You see, then, here are two methods of Education ; the end of the one is to be philosophical, of the other to be mechanical ; the one rises towards general ideas, the other is exhausted upon what is particular and external. Let me not be thought to deny the necessity, or to decry the benefit, of such attention to what is particular and practical, as belongs to the useful or mechanical arts ; life could not go on without them ; we owe our daily welfare to them ; their exercise is the duty of the many, and we owe to the many a debt of gratitude for fulfilling that duty. I only say that Knowledge, in proportion as it tends more and more to be particular, ceases to be Knowledge. It is a question whether Knowledge can in any proper sense be predicated of the brute creation ; without pretending to metaphysical exactness of phraseology, which would be unsuitable to an occasion like this, I say, it seems to me improper to call that passive sensation, or perception of things, which brutes seem to possess, by the name of Knowledge. When I speak of Knowledge, I mean something intellectual, something which grasps what it perceives through the senses ; something which takes a view of things ; which sees more than the senses convey ; which reasons upon what it sees, and while it sees ; which invests it with an idea. It expresses itself, not in a mere enunciation, but by an enthymeme : it is of the nature of science from the first,

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and in this consists its dignity. The principle of real dignity in Knowledge, its worth, its desirableness, considered irrespectively of its results, is this germ within it of a scientific or a philosophical process. This is how it comes to be an end in itself ; this is why it admits of being called Liberal. 5 Not to know the relative disposition of things is the state of slaves or children ; to have mapped out the Universe is the boast, or at least the ambition, of Philosophy.

Moreover, such knowledge is not a mere extrinsic or accidental advantage, which is ours to-day and another's to-morrow, which may be got up from a book, and easily forgotten again, which we can command or communicate at our pleasure, which we can borrow for the occasion, carry about in our hand, and take into the market ; it is an acquired illumination, it is a habit, a personal possession, and an inward endowment. And this is the reason, why it is more correct, as well as more usual, to speak of a University as a place of education, than of instruction, though, when knowledge is concerned, instruction would at first sight have seemed the more appropriate word. We are instructed, for instance, in manual exercises, in the fine and useful arts, in trades, and in ways of business ; for these are methods, which have little or no effect upon the mind itself, are contained in rules committed to memory, to tradition, or to use, and bear upon an end external to themselves. But education is a higher word ; it implies an action upon our mental nature, and the formation of a character ; it is something individual and permanent, and is commonly spoken of in connexion with religion and virtue. When, then, we speak of the communication of Knowledge as being Education, we thereby really imply that that Knowledge is a state or condition of mind ; and since cultivation of mind is surely worth seeking for its own sake, we are thus brought once more to the conclusion, which the word "Liberal" and the word "Philosophy" have already suggested, that there is a Knowledge, 30

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which is desirable, though nothing come of it, as being of itself a treasure, and a sufficient remuneration of years of labour.

## 7.

This, then, is the answer which I am prepared to give to the question with which I opened this Discourse. Before 5 going on to speak of the object of the Church in taking up Philosophy, and the uses to which she puts it, I am prepared to maintain that Philosophy is its own end, and, as I conceive, I have now begun the proof of it. I am prepared to maintain that there is a knowledge worth possessing for what 10 it is, and not merely for what it does; and what minutes remain to me to-day I shall devote to the removal of some portion of the indistinctness and confusion with which the subject may in some minds be surrounded.

It may be objected then, that, when we profess to seek 15 Knowledge for some end or other beyond itself, whatever it be, we speak intelligibly; but that, whatever men may have said, however obstinately the idea may have kept its ground from age to age, still it is simply unmeaning to say that we seek Knowledge for its own sake, and for nothing else; for 20 that it ever leads to something beyond itself, which therefore is its end, and the cause why it is desirable;—moreover, that this end is two-fold, either of this world or of the next; that all knowledge is cultivated either for secular objects or for eternal; that if it is directed to secular objects, it is called 25 Useful Knowledge, if to eternal, Religious or Christian Knowledge;—in consequence, that if, as I have allowed, this Liberal Knowledge does not benefit the body or estate, it ought to benefit the soul; but if the fact be really so, that it is neither a physical or a secular good on the one hand, nor a moral 30 good on the other, it cannot be a good at all, and is not worth the trouble which is necessary for its acquisition.—

And then I may be reminded that the professors of this

Liberal or Philosophical Knowledge have themselves, in every age, recognized this exposition of the matter, and have submitted to the issue in which it terminates ; for they have ever been attempting to make men virtuous ; or, if not, at least have assumed that refinement of mind was virtue, and that 5 they themselves were the virtuous portion of mankind. This they have professed on the one hand ; and on the other, they have utterly failed in their professions, so as ever to make themselves a proverb among men, and a laughing-stock both to the grave and the dissipated portion of mankind, in consequence of them. Thus they have furnished against themselves both the ground and the means of their own exposure, without any trouble at all to anyone else. In a word, from the time that Athens was the University of the world, what has Philosophy taught men, but to promise without practising, 15 and to aspire without attaining ? What has the deep and lofty thought of its disciples ended in but eloquent words ? Nay, what has its teaching ever meditated, when it was boldest in its remedies for human ill, beyond charming us to sleep by its lessons, that we might feel nothing at all ? like some 20 melodious air, or rather like those strong and transporting perfumes, which at first spread their sweetness over everything they touch, but in a little while do but offend in proportion as they once pleased us. Did Philosophy support Cicero under the disfavour of the fickle populace, or nerve 25 Seneca to oppose an imperial tyrant ? It abandoned Brutus, as he sorrowfully confessed, in his greatest need, and it forced Cato, as his panegyrist strangely boasts, into the false position of defying heaven. How few can be counted among its professors, who, like Polemo, were thereby converted from a 30 profligate course, or like Anaxagoras, thought the world well lost in exchange for its possession ? The philosopher in Rasselas taught a superhuman doctrine, and then succumbed without an effort to a trial of human affection.

“ He discoursed,” we are told, “ with great energy on the 35

government of the passions. His look was venerable, his action graceful, his pronunciation clear, and his diction elegant. He showed, with great strength of sentiment and variety of illustration, that human nature is degraded and debased, when the lower faculties predominate over the higher. He 5 communicated the various precepts given, from time to time, for the conquest of passion, and displayed the happiness of those who had obtained the important victory, after which man is no longer the slave of fear, nor the fool of hope. . . . He enumerated many examples of heroes immoveable by 10 pain or pleasure, who looked with indifference on those modes or accidents to which the vulgar give the names of good and evil."

Rasselas in a few days found the philosopher in a room half darkened, with his eyes misty, and his face pale. "Sir," 15 said he, "you have come at a time when all human friendship is useless; what I suffer cannot be remedied, what I have lost cannot be supplied. My daughter, my only daughter, from whose tenderness I expected all the comforts of my age, died last night of a fever." "Sir," said the prince, 20 "mortality is an event by which a wise man can never be surprised; we know that death is always near, and it should therefore always be expected." "Young man," answered the philosopher, "you speak like one who has never felt the pangs of separation." "Have you, then, forgot the precept," 25 said Rasselas, "which you so powerfully enforced? . . . consider that external things are naturally variable, but truth and reason are always the same." "What comfort," said the mourner, "can truth and reason afford me? Of what effect are they now, but to tell me that my daughter will 30 not be restored?"

## 8.

Better, far better, to make no professions, you will say, than to cheat others with what we are not, and to scandalize

them with what we are. The sensualist, or the man of the world, at any rate is not the victim of fine words, but pursues a reality and gains it. The Philosophy of Utility, you will say, Gentlemen, has at least done its work; and I grant it,—it aimed low, but it has fulfilled its aim. If that man of great intellect who has been its Prophet in the conduct of life played false to his own professions, he was not bound by his philosophy to be true to his friend or faithful in his trust. Moral virtue was not the line in which he undertook to instruct men; and though, as the poet calls him, he were the 10 “meanest” of mankind, he was so in what may be called his private capacity and without any prejudice to the theory of induction. He had a right to be so, if he chose, for anything that the Idols of the den or the theatre had to say to the contrary. His mission was the increase of physical enjoyment and social comfort;<sup>1</sup> and most wonderfully, most awfully has he fulfilled his conception and his design. Almost day by day have we fresh and fresh shoots, and buds, and blossoms, which are to ripen into fruit, on that magical tree of Knowledge which he planted, and to which none of us perhaps, except the very poor, but owes, if not his present life, at least his daily food, his health, and general well-being. He was the divinely provided minister of temporal benefits to all of us so great, that, whatever I am forced to think of him as a man, I have not the heart, from mere gratitude, to speak of him severely. And, in spite of the tendencies of his philosophy, which are, as we see at this day, to deprecate, or to trample on Theology, he has himself, in his writings, gone out of his way, as if with a prophetic misgiving of those tendencies, to insist on it as the instrument of that benevolent Father,<sup>2</sup> who, when He came on earth in visible form,

<sup>1</sup> It will be seen that on the whole I agree with Lord Macaulay in his *Essay on Bacon's Philosophy*. I do not know whether he would agree with me.

<sup>2</sup> *De Augment.* iv. 2, vid. Macaulay's *Essay*; vid. also “In principio operis ad Deum Patrem, Deum Verbum, Deum Spiritum, preces fun-

took on Him first and most prominently the office of assuaging the bodily wounds of human nature. And truly, like the old mediciner in the tale, “he sat diligently at his work, and hummed, with cheerful countenance, a pious song”; and then in turn “went out singing into the meadows so 5 gaily, that those who had seen him from afar might well have thought it was a youth gathering flowers for his beloved, instead of an old physician gathering healing herbs in the morning dew”.<sup>1</sup>

Alas, that men, in the action of life or in their heart of 10 hearts, are not what they seem to be in their moments of excitement, or in their trances or intoxications of genius,—so good, so noble, so serene! Alas, that Bacon too in his own way should after all be but the fellow of those heathen philosophers who in their disadvantages had some excuse for 15 their inconsistency, and who surprise us rather in what they did say than in what they did not do! Alas, that he too, like Socrates or Seneca, must be stripped of his holy-day coat, which looks so fair, and should be but a mockery amid his most majestic gravity of phrase; and, for all his vast 20 abilities, should, in the littleness of his own moral being, but typify the intellectual narrowness of his school! However, granting all this, heroism after all was not his philosophy:— I cannot deny he has abundantly achieved what he proposed. His is simply a Method whereby bodily discomforts and tem- 25 poral wants are to be most effectually removed from the greatest number; and already, before it has shown any signs

dimus humillimas et ardentissimas, ut humani generis ærumnarum memores, et peregrinationis istius vitæ, in quâ dies paucos et malos terimus, novis suis eleemosynis, per manus nostras, familiam humanam dotare dignentur. Atque illud insuper supplices rogamus, ne *humana divinis officiant*; neve ex reservatione viarum sensûs, et accensione maiore luminis naturalis, *aliquid incredulitatis et noctis, animis nostris erga divina mysteria oboriatur*,” etc., *Praef. Instaur. Magn.*

<sup>1</sup> Fouqué’s *Unknown Patient*.

of exhaustion, the gifts of nature, in their most artificial shapes and luxurious profusion and diversity, from all quarters of the earth, are, it is undeniable, by its means brought even to our doors, and we rejoice in them.

## 9.

Useful Knowledge then, I grant, has done its work ; and 5 Liberal Knowledge as certainly has not done its work,—that is, supposing, as the objectors assume, its direct end, like Religious Knowledge, is to make men better ; but this, I will not for an instant allow, and, unless I allow it, those objectors have said nothing to the purpose. I admit, rather I main- 10 tain, what they have been urging, for I consider Knowledge to have its end in itself. For all its friends, or its enemies, may say, I insist upon it, that it is as real a mistake to burden it with virtue or religion as with the mechanical arts. Its direct business is not to steel the soul against temptation or 15 to console it in affliction, any more than to set the loom in motion, or to direct the steam carriage ; be it ever so much the means or the condition of both material and moral advancement, still, taken by and in itself, it as little mends our hearts as it improves our temporal circumstances. And if its 20 eulogists claim for it such a power, they commit the very same kind of encroachment on a province not their own as the political economist who should maintain that his science educated him for casuistry or diplomacy. Knowledge is one thing, virtue is another ; good sense is not conscience, refinement 25 is not humility, nor is largeness and justness of view faith. Philosophy, however enlightened, however profound, gives no command over the passions, no influential motives, no vivifying principles. Liberal Education makes not the Christian, not the Catholic, but the gentleman. It is well to be a gentle- 30 man, it is well to have a cultivated intellect, a delicate taste, a candid, equitable, dispassionate mind, a noble and courteous

bearing in the conduct of life ;—these are the connatural qualities of a large knowledge ; they are the objects of a University ; I am advocating, I shall illustrate and insist upon them ; but still, I repeat, they are no guarantee for sanctity or even for conscientiousness, they may attach to the man of the world, to the profligate, to the heartless,—pleasant, alas, and attractive as he shows when decked out in them. Taken by themselves, they do but seem to be what they are not ; they look like virtue at a distance, but they are detected by close observers, and on the long run ; and hence it is that they are popularly accused of pretence and hypocrisy, not, I repeat, from their own fault, but because their professors and their admirers persist in taking them for what they are not, and are officious in arrogating for them a praise to which they have no claim. Quarry the granite rock with razors, or moor the vessel with a thread of silk ; then may you hope with such keen and delicate instruments as human knowledge and human reason to contend against those giants, the passion and the pride of man.

Surely we are not driven to theories of this kind, in order to vindicate the value and dignity of Liberal Knowledge. Surely the real grounds on which its pretensions rest are not so very subtle or abstruse, so very strange or improbable. Surely it is very intelligible to say, and that is what I say here, that Liberal Education, viewed in itself, is simply the cultivation of the intellect, as such, and its object is nothing more or less than intellectual excellence. Everything has its own perfection, be it higher or lower in the scale of things ; and the perfection of one is not the perfection of another. Things animate, inanimate, visible, invisible, all are good in their kind, and have a *best* of themselves, which is an object of pursuit. Why do you take such pains with your garden or your park ? You see to your walks and turf and shrubberies ; to your trees and drives ; not as if you meant to make an orchard of the one, or corn or pasture land of the other, 35

but because there is a special beauty in all that is goodly in wood, water, plain, and slope, brought all together by art into one shape, and grouped into one whole. Your cities are beautiful, your palaces, your public buildings, your territorial mansions, your churches ; and their beauty leads to nothing 5 beyond itself. There is a physical beauty and a moral : there is a beauty of person, there is a beauty of our moral being, which is natural virtue ; and in like manner there is a beauty, there is a perfection, of the intellect. There is an ideal perfection in these various subject-matters, towards which 10 individual instances are seen to rise, and which are the standards for all instances whatever. The Greek divinities and demigods, as the statuary has moulded them, with their symmetry of figure, and their high forehead and their regular features, are the perfection of physical beauty. The heroes, 15 of whom history tells, Alexander, or Cæsar, or Scipio, or Saladin, are the representatives of that magnanimity or self-mastery which is the greatness of human nature. Christianity too has its heroes, and in the supernatural order, and we call them Saints. The artist puts before him beauty of 20 feature and form ; the poet, beauty of mind ; the preacher, the beauty of grace : then intellect too, I repeat, has its beauty, and it has those who aim at it. To open the mind, to correct it, to refine it, to enable it to know, and to digest, master, rule, and use its knowledge, to give it power over its 25 own faculties, application, flexibility, method, critical exactness, sagacity, resource, address, eloquent expression, is an object as intelligible (for here we are inquiring, not what the object of a Liberal Education is worth, nor what use the Church makes of it, but what it is in itself), I say, an object 30 as intelligible as the cultivation of virtue, while, at the same time, it is absolutely distinct from it.

## 10.

This indeed is but a temporal object, and a transitory possession : but so are other things in themselves which we make much of and pursue. The moralist will tell us that man, in all his functions, is but a flower which blossoms and fades, except so far as a higher principle breathes upon him, 5 and makes him and what he is immortal. Body and mind are carried on into an eternal state of being by the gifts of Divine Munificence ; but at first they do but fail in a failing. world ; and if the powers of intellect decay, the powers of the body have decayed before them, and, as an Hospital or an 10 Almshouse, though its end be ephemeral, may be sanctified to the service of religion, so surely may a University, even were it nothing more than I have as yet described it. We attain to heaven by using this world well, though it is to pass away ; we perfect our nature, not by undoing it, but by add-15 ing to it what is more than nature, and directing it towards aims higher than its own.

## WHAT IS A UNIVERSITY?

IF I were asked to describe as briefly and popularly as I could, what a University was, I should draw my answer from its ancient designation of a *Studium Generale*, or "School of Universal Learning." This description implies the assemblage of strangers from all parts in one spot;—*from all parts*; else, how will you find professors and students for every department of knowledge? and *in one spot*; else, how can there be any school at all? Accordingly, in its simple and rudimental form, it is a school of knowledge of every kind, consisting of teachers and learners from every quarter.<sup>10</sup> Many things are requisite to complete and satisfy the idea embodied in this description; but such as this a University seems to be in its essence, a place for the communication and circulation of thought, by means of personal intercourse, through a wide extent of country.<sup>15</sup>

There is nothing far-fetched or unreasonable in the idea thus presented to us; and if this be a University, then a University does but contemplate a necessity of our nature, and is but one specimen in a particular medium, out of many which might be adduced in others, of a provision for that necessity. Mutual education, in a large sense of the word, is one of the great and incessant occupations of human society, carried on partly with set purpose, and partly not. One generation forms another; and the existing generation is ever acting and reacting upon itself in the persons of its individual members. Now, in this process, books, I need scarcely say, that is, the *litera scripta*, are one special instru-

ment. It is true; and emphatically so in this age. Considering the prodigious powers of the press, and how they are developed at this time in the never-intermitting issue of periodicals, tracts, pamphlets, works in series, and light literature, we must allow there never was a time which promised fairer 5 for dispensing with every other means of information and instruction. What can we want more, you will say, for the intellectual education of the whole man, and for every man, than so exuberant and diversified and persistent a promulgation of all kinds of knowledge? Why, you will ask, need we go 10 up to knowledge, when knowledge comes down to us? The Sibyl wrote her prophecies upon the leaves of the forest, and wasted them; but here such careless profusion might be prudently indulged, for it can be afforded without loss, in consequence of the almost fabulous fecundity of the instru- 15 ment which these latter ages have invented. We have sermons in stones, and books in the running brooks; works larger and more comprehensive than those which have gained for ancients an immortality, issue forth every morning, and are projected onwards to the ends of the earth at the rate of 20 hundreds of miles a day. Our seats are strewed, our pavements are powdered, with swarms of little tracts; and the very bricks of our city walls preach wisdom, by informing us by their placards where we can at once cheaply purchase it.

I allow all this, and much more; such certainly is our 25 popular education, and its effects are remarkable. Nevertheless, after all, even in this age, whenever men are really serious about getting what, in the language of trade, is called "a good article," when they aim at something precise, something refined, something really luminous, something really 30 large, something choice, they go to another market; they avail themselves, in some shape or other, of the rival method, the ancient method, of oral instruction, of present communication between man and man, of teachers instead of learning, of the personal influence of a master, and the 35

humble initiation of a disciple, and, in consequence, of great centres of pilgrimage and throng, which such a method of education necessarily involves. This, I think, will be found to hold good in all those departments or aspects of society, which possess an interest sufficient to bind men together, or 5 to constitute what is called "a world." It holds in the political world, and in the high world, and in the religious world ; and it holds also in the literary and scientific world.

If the actions of men may be taken as any test of their convictions, then we have reason for saying this, viz.:—that 10 the province and the inestimable benefit of the *litera scripta* is that of being a record of truth, and an authority of appeal, and an instrument of teaching in the hands of a teacher; but that, if we wish to become exact and fully furnished in any branch of knowledge which is diversified and complicated, 15 we must consult the living man and listen to his living voice. I am not bound to investigate the cause of this, and anything I may say will, I am conscious, be short of its full analysis ;— perhaps we may suggest, that no books can get through the number of minute questions which it is possible to ask on any 20 extended subject, or can hit upon the very difficulties which are severally felt by each reader in succession. Or again, that no book can convey the special spirit and delicate peculiarities of its subject with that rapidity and certainty which attend on the sympathy of mind with mind, through 25 the eyes, the look, the accent, and the manner, in casual expressions thrown off at the moment, and the unstudied turns of familiar conversation. But I am already dwelling too long on what is but an incidental portion of my main subject. Whatever be the cause, the fact is undeniable. The general 30 principles of any study you may learn by books at home; but the detail, the colour, the tone, the air, the life which makes it live in us, you must catch all these from those in whom it lives already. You must imitate the student in French or German, who is not content with his grammar, but goes to 35

Paris or Dresden : you must take example from the young artist, who aspires to visit the great Masters in Florence and in Rome. Till we have discovered some intellectual daguerreotype, which takes off the course of thought, and the form, lineaments, and features of truth, as completely and 5 minutely, as the optical instrument reproduces the sensible object, we must come to the teachers of wisdom to learn wisdom, we must repair to the fountain, and drink there. Portions of it may go from thence to the ends of the earth by means of books ; but the fulness is in one place alone. It is 10 in such assemblages and congregations of intellect that books themselves, the masterpieces of human genius, are written, or at least originated.

The principle on which I have been insisting is so obvious, and instances in point are so ready, that I should think it 15 tiresome to proceed with the subject, except that one or two illustrations may serve to explain my own language about it, which may not have done justice to the doctrine which it has been intended to enforce.

For instance, the polished manners and high-bred bearing 20 which are so difficult of attainment, and so strictly personal when attained,—which are so much admired in society, from society are acquired. All that goes to constitute a gentleman,—the carriage, gait, address, gestures, voice ; the ease, the self-possession, the courtesy, the power of conversing, the talent of 25 not offending ; the lofty principle, the delicacy of thought, the happiness of expression, the taste and propriety, the generosity and forbearance, the candour and consideration, the openness of hand ;—these qualities, some of them come by nature, some of them may be found in any rank, some of them 30 are a direct precept of Christianity ; but the full assemblage of them, bound up in the unity of an individual character, do we expect they can be learned from books ? are they not necessarily acquired, where they are to be found, in high society ? The very nature of the case leads us to say so ; 35

you cannot fence without an antagonist, nor challenge all comers in disputation before you have supported a thesis ; and in like manner, it stands to reason, you cannot learn to converse till you have the world to converse with ; you cannot unlearn your natural bashfulness, or awkwardness, or stiffness, or other besetting deformity, till you serve your time in some school of manners. Well, and is it not so in matter of fact ? The metropolis, the court, the great houses of the land, are the centres to which at stated times the country comes up, as to shrines of refinement and good taste ; and 10 then in due time the country goes back again home, enriched with a portion of the social accomplishments, which those very visits serve to call out and heighten in the gracious dispensers of them. We are unable to conceive how the "gentlemanlike" can otherwise be maintained ; and main- 15 tained in this way it is.

And now a second instance : and here too I am going to speak without personal experience of the subject I am introducing. I admit I have not been in Parliament, any more than I have figured in the *beau monde* ; yet I cannot but 20 think that statesmanship, as well as high breeding, is learned, not by books, but in certain centres of education. If it be not presumption to say so, Parliament puts a clever man *au courant* with politics and affairs of state in a way surprising to himself. A member of the Legislature if tolerably 25 observant, begins to see things with new eyes, even though his views undergo no change. Words have a meaning now, and ideas a reality, such as they had not before. He hears a vast deal in public speeches and private conversation, which is never put into print. The bearings of measures and 30 events, the action of parties, and the persons of friends and enemies, are brought out to the man who is in the midst of them with a distinctness, which the most diligent perusal of newspapers will fail to impart to them. It is access to the fountain-heads of political wisdom and experience, it is daily 35

intercourse, of one kind or another, with the multitude who go up to them, it is familiarity with business, it is access to the contributions of fact and opinion thrown together by many witnesses from many quarters, which does this for him. However, I need not account for a fact, to which it is 5 sufficient to appeal ; that the Houses of Parliament and the atmosphere around them are a sort of University of politics.

As regards the world of science, we find a remarkable instance of the principle which I am illustrating, in the periodical meetings for its advance, which have arisen in the<sup>10</sup> course of the last twenty years, such as the British Association. Such gatherings would to many persons appear at first sight simply preposterous. Above all subjects of study, Science is conveyed, is propagated, by books, or by private teaching ; experiments and investigations are conducted in<sup>15</sup> silence ; discoveries are made in solitude. What have philosophers to do with festive celebrities, and panegyrical solemnities with mathematical and physical truth ? Yet on a closer attention to the subject, it is found that not even scientific thought can dispense with the suggestions, the in-<sup>20</sup> struction, the stimulus, the sympathy, the intercourse with mankind on a large scale, which such meetings secure. A fine time of year is chosen, when days are long, skies are bright, the earth smiles, and all nature rejoices ; a city or town is taken by turns, of ancient name or modern opulence,<sup>25</sup> where buildings are spacious and hospitality hearty. The novelty of place and circumstance, the excitement of strange, or the refreshment of well-known faces, the majesty of rank or of genius, the amiable charities of men pleased both with themselves and with each other ; the elevated spirits,<sup>30</sup> the circulation of thought, the curiosity ; the morning sections, the outdoor exercise, the well-furnished, well-earned board, the not ungraceful hilarity, the evening circle ; the brilliant lecture, the discussions or collisions or guesses of great men one with another, the narratives of scientific<sup>35</sup>

processes, of hopes, disappointments, conflicts, and successes, the splendid eulogistic orations ; these and the like constituents of the annual celebration, are considered to do something real and substantial for the advance of knowledge which can be done in no other way. Of course they can but 5 be occasional ; they answer to the annual Act, or Commencement, or Commemoration of a University, not to its ordinary condition ; but they are of a University nature ; and I can well believe in their utility. They issue in the promotion of a certain living and, as it were, bodily communication of knowledge from one to another, of a general 10 interchange of ideas, and a comparison and adjustment of science with science, of an enlargement of mind, intellectual and social, of an ardent love of the particular study, which may be chosen by each individual, and a noble devotion to 15 its interests.

Such meetings, I repeat, are but periodical, and only partially represent the idea of a University. The bustle and whirl which are their usual concomitants, are in ill keeping with the order and gravity of earnest intellectual education. We de- 20 siderate means of instruction which involve no interruption of our ordinary habits ; nor need we seek it long, for the natural course of things brings it about, while we debate over it. In every great country, the metropolis itself becomes a sort of necessary University, whether we will or no. As the 25 chief city is the seat of the court, of high society, of politics, and of law, so as a matter of course is it the seat of letters also ; and at this time, for a long term of years, London and Paris are in fact and in operation Universities, though in Paris its famous University is no more, and in London a 30 University scarcely exists except as a board of administration. The newspapers, magazines, reviews, journals, and periodicals of all kinds, the publishing trade, the libraries, museums, and academies there found, the learned and scientific societies, necessarily invest it with the functions of a Univer- 35

sity ; and that atmosphere of intellect, which in a former age hung over Oxford or Bologna or Salamanca, has, with the change of times, moved away to the centre of civil government. Thither come up youths from all parts of the country, the students of law, medicine, and the fine arts, and the 5 *employés* and *attachés* of literature. There they live, as chance determines ; and they are satisfied with their temporary home, for they find in it all that was promised to them there. They have not come in vain, as far as their own object in coming is concerned. They have not learned 10 any particular religion, but they have learned their own particular profession well. They have, moreover, become acquainted with the habits, manners, and opinions of their place of sojourn, and done their part in maintaining the tradition of them. We cannot then be without virtual Uni-15 versities ; a metropolis is such : the simple question is, whether the education sought and given should be based on principle, formed upon rule, directed to the highest ends, or left to the random succession of masters and schools, one after another, with a melancholy waste of thought and an ex- 20 treme hazard of truth.

Religious teaching itself affords us an illustration of our subject to a certain point. It does not indeed seat itself merely in centres of the world ; this is impossible from the nature of the case. It is intended for the many not the few ; 25 its subject matter is truth necessary for us, not truth recondite and rare ; but it concurs in the principle of a University so far as this, that its great instrument, or rather organ, has ever been that which nature prescribes in all education, the personal presence of a teacher, or, in theological language, 30 Oral Tradition. It is the living voice, the breathing form, the expressive countenance, which preaches, which catechises. Truth, a subtle, invisible, manifold spirit, is poured into the mind of the scholar by his eyes and ears, through his affections, imagination, and reason ; it is poured into his mind 35

and is sealed up there in perpetuity, by propounding and repeating it, by questioning and requestioning, by correcting and explaining, by progressing and then recurring to first principles, by all those ways which are implied in the word "catechising." In the first ages, it was a work of long time; months, sometimes years, were devoted to the arduous task of disabusing the mind of the incipient Christian of its pagan errors, and of moulding it upon the Christian faith. The Scriptures indeed were at hand for the study of those who could avail themselves of them; but St. Irenæus does not hesitate to speak of whole races, who had been converted to Christianity, without being able to read them. To be unable to read or write was in those times no evidence of want of learning: the hermits of the deserts were, in this sense of the word, illiterate; yet the great St. Anthony, though he knew not letters, was a match in disputation for the learned philosophers who came to try him. Didymus again, the great Alexandrian theologian, was blind. The ancient discipline, called the *Disciplina Arcani*, involved the same principle. The more sacred doctrines of Revelation were not committed to books but passed on by successive tradition. The teaching on the Blessed Trinity and the Eucharist appears to have been so handed down for some hundred years; and when at length reduced to writing, it has filled many folios, yet has not been exhausted. 25

But I have said more than enough in illustration; I end as I began;—a University is a place of concourse, whither students come from every quarter for every kind of knowledge. You cannot have the best of every kind everywhere; you must go to some great city or emporium for it. There you have all the choicest productions of nature and art all together, which you find each in its own separate place elsewhere. All the riches of the land, and of the earth, are carried up thither; there are the best markets, and there the best workmen. It is the centre of trade, the supreme court 35

of fashion, the umpire of rival talents, and the standard of things rare and precious. It is the place for seeing galleries of first-rate pictures, and for hearing wonderful voices and performers of transcendent skill. It is the place for great preachers, great orators, great nobles, great statesmen. In 5 the nature of things, greatness and unity go together; excellence implies a centre. And such, for the third or fourth time, is a University; I hope I do not weary out the reader by repeating it. It is the place to which a thousand schools make contributions; in which the intellect may safely range<sup>10</sup> and speculate, sure to find its equal in some antagonist activity, and its judge in the tribunal of truth. It is a place where inquiry is pushed forward, and discoveries verified and perfected, and rashness rendered innocuous, and error exposed, by the collision of mind with mind, and knowledge<sup>15</sup> with knowledge. It is the place where the professor becomes eloquent, and is a missionary and a preacher, displaying his science in its most complete and most winning form, pouring it forth with the zeal of enthusiasm, and lighting up his own love of it in the breasts of his hearers.<sup>20</sup> It is the place where the catechist makes good his ground as he goes, treading in the truth day by day into the ready memory, and wedging and tightening it into the expanding reason. It is a place which wins the admiration of the young by its celebrity, kindles the affections of the middle-<sup>25</sup> aged by its beauty, and rivets the fidelity of the old by its associations. It is a seat of wisdom, a light of the world, a minister of the faith, an Alma Mater of the rising genera-<sup>30</sup> tion. It is this and a great deal more, and demands a somewhat better head and hand than mine to describe it well.

Such is a University in its idea and in its purpose; such in good measure has it before now been in fact. Shall it ever be again? We are going forward in the strength of the Cross, under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin, in the name of St. Patrick, to attempt it.

## SITE OF A UNIVERSITY.

If we would know what a University is, considered in its elementary idea, we must betake ourselves to the first and most celebrated home of European literature and source of European civilization, to the bright and beautiful Athens,—Athens, whose schools drew to her bosom, and then sent back again to the business of life, the youth of the Western World for a long thousand years. Seated on the verge of the continent, the city seemed hardly suited for the duties of a central metropolis of knowledge; yet, what it lost in convenience of approach, it gained in its neighbourhood to the traditions of the mysterious East, and in the loveliness of the region in which it lay. Hither, then, as to a sort of ideal land, where all archetypes of the great and the fair were found in substantial being, and all departments of truth explored, and all diversities of intellectual power exhibited, where taste and philosophy were majestically enthroned as in a royal court, where there was no sovereignty but that of mind, and no nobility but that of genius, where professors were rulers, and princes did homage, hither flocked continually from the very corners of the *orbis terrarum*, the many-tongued generation, just rising, or just risen into manhood, in order to gain wisdom.

Pisistratus had in an early age discovered and nursed the infant genius of his people, and Cimon, after the Persian war, had given it a home. That war had established the naval supremacy of Athens; she had become an imperial state; and the Ionians, bound to her by the double chain of

kindred and of subjection, were importing into her both their merchandize and their civilization. The arts and philosophy of the Asiatic coast were easily carried across the sea, and there was Cimon, as I have said, with his ample fortune, ready to receive them with due honours. Not content with 5 patronizing their professors, he built the first of those noble porticos, of which we hear so much in Athens, and he formed the groves, which in process of time became the celebrated Academy. Planting is one of the most graceful, as in Athens it was one of the most beneficent, of employments.<sup>10</sup> Cimon took in hand the wild wood, pruned and dressed it, and laid it out with handsome walks and welcome fountains. Nor, while hospitable to the authors of the city's civilization, was he ungrateful to the instruments of her prosperity. His trees extended their cool, umbrageous branches over the merchants, who assembled in the Agora, for many generations.<sup>15</sup>

Those merchants certainly had deserved that act of bounty; for all the while their ships had been carrying forth the intellectual fame of Athens to the western world. Then commenced what may be called her University existence.<sup>20</sup> Pericles, who succeeded Cimon both in the government and in the patronage of art, is said by Plutarch to have entertained the idea of making Athens the capital of federated Greece: in this he failed, but his encouragement of such men as Phidias and Anaxagoras led the way to her acquiring 25 a far more lasting sovereignty over a far wider empire. Little understanding the sources of her own greatness, Athens would go to war: peace is the interest of a seat of commerce and the arts; but to war she went; yet to her, whether peace or war, it mattered not. The political power<sup>30</sup> of Athens waned and disappeared; kingdoms rose and fell; centuries rolled away,—he did but bring fresh triumphs to the city of the poet and the sage. There at length the swarthy Moor and Spaniard were seen to meet the blue-eyed Gaul; and the Cappadocian, late subject of Mithridates,<sup>35</sup>

gazed without alarm at the haughty conquering Roman Revolution after revolution passed over the face of Europe, as well as of Greece, but still she was there,—Athens, the city of mind,—as radiant, as splendid, as delicate, as young, as ever she had been.

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Many a more fruitful coast or isle is washed by the blue *Æ*gean, many a spot is there more beautiful or sublime to see, many a territory more ample; but there was one charm in Attica, which in the same perfection was nowhere else. The deep pastures of Arcadia, the plain of Argos, the Thessalian vale, these had not the gift; Boeotia, which lay to its immediate north, was notorious for its very want of it. The heavy atmosphere of that Boeotia might be good for vegetation, but it was associated in popular belief with the dulness of the Boeotian intellect: on the contrary, the special purity, 15 elasticity, clearness, and salubrity of the air of Attica, fit concomitant and emblem of its genius, did that for it which earth did not;—it brought out every bright hue and tender shade of the landscape over which it was spread, and would have illuminated the face even of a more bare and rugged 20 country.

A confined triangle, perhaps fifty miles its greatest length, and thirty its greatest breadth; two elevated rocky barriers, meeting at an angle; three prominent mountains, commanding the plain,—Parnes, Pentelicus, and Hymettus; an un- 25 satisfactory soil; some streams, not always full;—such is about the report which the agent of a London company would have made of Attica. He would report that the climate was mild; the hills were limestone; there was plenty of good marble; more pasture land than at first 30 survey might have been expected, sufficient certainly for sheep and goats; fisheries productive; silver mines once, but long since worked out; figs fair; oil first-rate; olives in profusion. But what he would not think of noting down, was, that that olive tree was so choice in nature and so noble 35

in shape, that it excited a religious veneration ; and that it took so kindly to the light soil, as to expand into woods upon the open plain, and to climb up and fringe the hills. He would not think of writing word to his employers, how that clear air, of which I have spoken, brought out, yet 5 blended and subdued, the colours on the marble, till they had a softness and harmony, for all their richness, which in a picture looks exaggerated, yet is after all within the truth. He would not tell, how that same delicate and brilliant atmosphere freshened up the pale olive, till the olive forgot its 10 monotony, and its cheek glowed like the arbutus or beech of the Umbrian hills. He would say nothing of the thyme and thousand fragrant herbs which carpeted Hymettus ; he would hear nothing of the hum of its bees ; nor take much account of the rare flavour of its honey, since Gozo and 15 Minorca were sufficient for the English demand. He would look over the *Æ*gean from the height he had ascended ; he would follow with his eye the chain of islands, which, starting from the Sunian headland, seemed to offer the fabled divinities of Attica, when they, would visit their 20 Ionian cousins, a sort of viaduct thereto across the sea : but that fancy would not occur to him, nor any admiration of the dark violet billows with their white edges down below ; nor of those graceful, fan-like jets of silver upon the rocks, which slowly rise aloft like water spirits from the deep, then shiver, 25 and break, and spread, and shroud themselves, and disappear, in a soft mist of foam ; nor of the gentle, incessant heaving and panting of the whole liquid plain ; nor of the long waves, keeping steady time, like a line of soldiery, as they resound upon the hollow shore,—he would not deign 30 to notice that restless living element at all, except to bless his stars that he was not upon it. Nor the distinct detail, nor the refined colouring, nor the graceful outline and roseate golden hue of the jutting crags, nor the bold shadows cast from Otus or Laurium by the declining sun ;—our agent 35

of a mercantile firm would not value these matters even at a low figure. Rather we must turn for the sympathy we seek to yon pilgrim student come from a semi-barbarous land to that small corner of the earth, as to a shrine, where he might take his fill of gazing on those emblems and coruscations of 5 invisible unoriginate perfection. It was the stranger from a remote province, from Britain or from Mauritania, who in a scene so different from that of his chilly, woody swamps, or of his fiery choking sands, learned at once what a real University must be, by coming to understand the sort of 10 country, which was its suitable home.

Nor was this all that a University required, and found in Athens. No one, even there, could live on poetry. If the students at that famous place had nothing better than bright hues and soothing sounds, they would not have been able or 15 disposed to turn their residence there to much account. Of course they must have the means of living, nay, in a certain sense, of enjoyment, if Athens was to be an Alma Mater at the time, or to remain afterwards a pleasant thought in their memory. And so they had : be it recollecteth Athens was a 20 port, and a mart of trade, perhaps the first in Greece ; and this was very much to the point, when a number of strangers were ever flocking to it, whose combat was to be with intellectual, not physical difficulties, and who claimed to have their bodily wants supplied, that they might be at 25 leisure to set about furnishing their minds. Now, barren as was the soil of Attica, and bare the face of the country, yet it had only too many resources for an elegant, nay luxurious abode there. So abundant were the imports of the place, that it was a common saying, that the productions, which 30 were found singly elsewhere, were brought all together in Athens. Corn and wine, the staple of subsistence in such a climate, came from the isles of the *Ægean* ; fine wool and carpeting from Asia Minor ; slaves, as now, from the Euxine, and timber too ; and iron and brass from the coasts of the 35.

Mediterranean. The Athenian did not condescend to manufactures himself, but encouraged them in others; and a population of foreigners caught at the lucrative occupation both for home consumption and for exportation. Their cloth, and other textures for dress and furniture, and their hardware—<sup>5</sup> for instance, armour—were in great request. Labour was cheap; stone and marble in plenty; and the taste and skill, which at first were devoted to public buildings, as temples and porticos, were in course of time applied to the mansions of public men. If nature did much for Athens, it is undeniable that art did much more.<sup>10</sup>

Here some one will interrupt me with the remark: “By the bye, where are we, and whither are we going?—what has all this to do with a University? at least what has it to do with education? It is instructive doubtless; but still how<sup>15</sup> much has it to do with your subject?” Now I beg to assure the reader that I am most conscientiously employed upon my subject; and I should have thought every one would have seen this: however, since the objection is made, I may be allowed to pause awhile, and show distinctly the drift of<sup>20</sup> what I have been saying, before I go farther. *What* has this to do with my subject! why, the question of the *site* is the very first that comes into consideration, when a *Studium Generale* is contemplated; for that site should be a liberal and noble one; who will deny it? All authorities agree in<sup>25</sup> this, and very little reflection will be sufficient to make it clear. I recollect a conversation I once had on this very subject with a very eminent man. I was a youth of eighteen, and was leaving my University for the Long Vacation, when I found myself in company in a public conveyance with a<sup>30</sup> middle-aged person, whose face was strange to me. However, it was the great academical luminary of the day, whom afterwards I knew very well. Luckily for me, I did not suspect it; and luckily too, it was a fancy of his, as his friends knew, to make himself on easy terms especially with<sup>35</sup>

stage-coach companions. So, what with my flippancy and his condescension, I managed to hear many things which were novel to me at the time; and one point which he was strong upon, and was evidently fond of urging, was the material pomp and circumstance which should environ a great seat of learning. He considered it was worth the consideration of the government, whether Oxford should not stand in a domain of its own. An ample range, say four miles in diameter, should be turned into wood and meadow, and the University should be approached on all sides by a magnificent park, with fine trees in groups and groves and avenues, and with glimpses and views of the fair city, as the traveller drew near it. There is nothing surely absurd in the idea, though it would cost a round sum to realise it. What has a better claim to the purest and fairest possessions of nature, than the seat of wisdom? So thought my coach companion; and he did but express the tradition of ages and the instinct of mankind.

For instance, take the great University of Paris. That famous school engrossed as its territory the whole south bank of the Seine, and occupied one half, and that the pleasanter half, of the city. King Louis had the island pretty well as his own,—it was scarcely more than a fortification; and the north of the river was given over to the nobles and citizens to do what they could with its marshes; but the eligible south, rising from the stream, which swept around its base, to the fair summit of St. Genevieve, with its broad meadows, its vineyards and its gardens, and with the sacred elevation of Montmartre confronting it, all this was the inheritance of the University. There was that pleasant Pratum, stretching along the river's bank, in which the students for centuries took their recreation, which Alcuin seems to mention in his farewell verses to Paris, and which has given a name to the great Abbey of St. Germain-des-Prés. For long years it was devoted to the purposes of innocent and healthy enjoyment; 35

but evil times came on the University ; disorder arose within its precincts, and the fair meadow became the scene of party brawls ; heresy stalked through Europe, and Germany and England no longer sending their contingent of students, a heavy debt was the consequence to the academical body. To 5 let their land was the only resource left to them : buildings rose upon it, and spread along the green sod, and the country at length became town. Great was the grief and indignation of the doctors and masters, when this catastrophe occurred. "A wretched sight," said the Proctor of the German nation, 10 "a wretched sight, to witness the sale of that ancient manor, whither the Muses were wont to wander for retirement and pleasure. Whither shall the youthful student now betake himself, what relief will he find for his eyes, wearied with intense reading, now that the pleasant stream is taken from 15 him ?" Two centuries and more have passed since this complaint was uttered ; and time has shown that the outward calamity, which it recorded, was but the emblem of the great moral revolution, which was to follow ; till the institution itself has followed its green meadows, into the region of 20 things which once were and now are not.

And in like manner, when they were first contemplating a University in Belgium, some centuries ago, "Many," says Lipsius, " suggested Mechlin, as an abode salubrious and clean, but Louvain was preferred, as for other reasons, so 25 because no city seemed, from the disposition of place and people, more suitable for learned leisure. Who will not approve the decision ? Can a site be healthier or more pleasant ? The atmosphere pure and cheerful ; the spaces open and delightful ; meadows, fields, vines, groves, nay, I 30 may say, a *rus in urbe*. Ascend and walk round the walls ; what do you look down upon ? Does not the wonderful and delightful variety smooth the brow and soothe the mind ? You have corn, and apples, and grapes ; sheep and oxen ; and birds chirping or singing. Now carry your feet or 35

your eyes beyond the walls ; there are streamlets, the river meandering along ; country-houses, convents, the superb fortress ; copses or woods fill up the scene, and spots for simple enjoyment." And then he breaks out into poetry :

Salvete Athenæ nostra, Athenæ Belgicæ,  
Te Gallus, te Germanus, et te Sarmata  
Invisit, et Britannus, et te duplicitis  
Hispaniæ alumnus, etc.

5

" Extravagant, then, and wayward as might be the thought of my learned coach companion, when, in the nineteenth century, he imagined, Norman-wise, to turn a score of villages into a park or pleasure, still, the waywardness of his fancy is excused by the justness of his principle ; for certainly, such as he would have made it, a University ought to be. Old Antony-à-Wood, discoursing on the demands of a University, 15 had expressed the same sentiment long before him ; as Horace in ancient times, with reference to Athens itself, when he spoke of seeking truth "in the groves of Academe." And to Athens, as will be seen, Wood himself appeals, when he would discourse of Oxford. Among " those things which 20 are required to make a University," he puts down,—

" First, a good and pleasant site, where there is a wholesome and temperate constitution of the air ; composed with waters, springs or wells, woods and pleasant fields ; which being obtained, those commodities are enough to invite students to stay and abide there. As the Athenians in ancient times were happy for their conveniences, so also were the Britons, when by a remnant of the Grecians that came amongst them, they or their successors selected such a place in Britain to plant a school or schools therein, which for its 30 pleasant situation was afterwards called Bellositum or Bello-site, now Oxford, privileged with all those conveniences before mentioned."

By others the local advantages of that University have

been more philosophically analyzed;—for instance, with a reference to its position in the middle of southern England; its situation on several islands in a broad plain, through which many streams flowed; the surrounding marshes, which, in times when it was needed, protected the city from invaders; 5 its own strength as a military position: its easy communication with London, nay with the sea, by means of the Thames; while the London fortifications hindered pirates from ascending the stream, which all the time was so ready and convenient for a descent.

• 10

Alas! for centuries past that city has lost its prime honour and boast, as a servant and soldier of the Truth. Once named the second school of the Church, second only to Paris, the foster-mother of St. Edmund, St. Richard, St. Thomas Cantilupe, the theatre of great intellects, of Scotus the subtle 15 Doctor, of Hales the irrefragible, of Occam the special, of Bacon the admirable, of Middleton the solid, and of Bradwardine the profound, Oxford has now lapsed to that level of mere human loveliness, which in its highest perfection we admire in Athens. Nor would it have a place, now or here- 20 after, in these pages, nor would it occur to me to speak its name, except that, even in its sorrowful deprivation, it still retains so much of that outward lustre, which, like the brightness of the prophet's face, ought to be a ray from an illumination within, as to afford me an illustration of the 25 point on which I am engaged, viz. what should be the material dwelling-place and appearance, the local circumstances, and the secular concomitants of a great University. Pictures are drawn in tales of romance, of spirits seemingly too beautiful in their fall to be really fallen, and the holy Pope at 30 Rome, Gregory, in fact, and not in fiction, looked upon the blue eyes and golden hair of the fierce Saxon youth in the slave market, and pronounced them Angels, not Angles; and the spell which this once loyal daughter of the Church still exercises upon the foreign visitor, even now when her true 35

glory is departed, suggests to us how far more majestic and more touching, how brimful of indescribable influence would be the presence of a University, which was planted within, not without Jerusalem,—an influence, potent as her truth is strong, wide as her sway is world-wide, and growing, 5 not lessening, by the extent of space over which its attraction would be exerted.

Let the reader then listen to the words of the last learned German, who has treated of Oxford, and judge for himself if they do not bear me out, in what I have said of the fascination 10 which the very face and smile of a University possess over those who come within its range.

“There is scarce a spot in the world,” says Huber, “that bears an historical stamp so deep and varied as Oxford; where so many noble memorials of moral and material 15 power, coöperating to an honourable end, meet the eye all at once. He who can be proof against the strong emotions which the whole aspect and genius of the place tend to inspire, must be dull, thoughtless, uneducated, or of very perverted views. Others will bear us witness, that, even side 20 by side with the Eternal Rome, the Alma Mater of Oxford may be fitly named, as producing a deep, a lasting, and peculiar impression.

“In one of the most fertile districts of the Queen of the Seas, whom nature has so richly blessed, whom for centuries 25 past no footstep of foreign armies has desecrated, lies a broad green vale, where the Cherwell and the Isis mingle their full, clear waters. Here and there primeval elms and oaks overshadow them; while in their various windings they encircle gardens, meadows, and fields, villages, cottages, farm-houses, 30 and country-seats, in motley mixture. In the midst rises a mass of mighty buildings, the general character of which varies between convent, palace, and castle. Some few Gothic church-towers and Romaic domes, it is true, break through the horizontal lines; yet the general impression at a distance 35

and at first sight, is essentially different from that of any of the towns of the middle ages. The outlines are far from being so sharp, so angular, so irregular, so fantastical ; a certain softness, a peculiar repose, reigns in those broader, terrace-like rising masses. Only in the creations of Claude 5 Lorraine or Poussin could we expect to find a spot to compare with the prevailing character of this picture, especially when lit up by a favourable light. The principal masses consist of Colleges, the University buildings, and the city churches ; and by the side of these the city itself is lost on-10 distant view. But on entering the streets, we find around us all the signs of an active and prosperous trade. Rich and elegant shops in profusion afford a sight to be found nowhere but in England ; but with all this glitter and show, they sink into a modest, and, as it were, a menial attitude, by the side 15 of the grandly severe memorials of the higher intellectual life, memorials which have been growing out of that life from almost the beginning of Christianity itself. Those rich and elegant shops are, as it were, the domestic offices of these palaces of learning, which ever rivet the eye of the ob-20 server, while all besides seems perforce to be subservient to them. Each of the larger and more ancient Colleges looks like a separate whole—an entire town, whose walls and monuments proclaim the vigorous growth of many centuries ; and the town itself has happily escaped the lot of modern 25 beautifying, and in this respect harmonizes with the Colleges."<sup>1</sup>

There are those who, having felt the influence of this ancient School, and being smit with its splendour and its sweetness, ask wistfully, if never again it is to be Catholic, or 30 whether at least some footing for Catholicity may not be found there. All honour and merit to the charitable and zealous hearts who so inquire ! Nor can we dare to tell

<sup>1</sup> Huber on English Universities. F. W. Newman's translation.

what in time to come may be the inscrutable purposes of that grace, which is ever more comprehensive than human hope and aspiration. But for me, from the day I left its walls, I never, for good or bâd, have had anticipation of its future ; and never for a moment have I had a wish to see again a 5 place, which I have never ceased to love, and where I lived for nearly thirty years. Nay, looking at the general state of things at this day, I desiderate for a School of the Church, if an additional School is to be granted to us, a more central position than Oxford has to show. Since the age of Alfred 10 and of the first Henry, the world has grown, from the west and south of Europe, into four or five continents ; and I look for a city less inland than that old sanctuary, and a country closer upon the highway of the seas. I look towards a land both old and young ; old in its Christianity, young in the 15 promise of its future ; a nation, which received grace before the Saxon came to Britain, and which has never quenched it ; a Church, which comprehends in its history the rise and fall of Canterbury and York, which Augustine and Paulinus found, and Pole and Fisher left behind them. I contemplate 20 a people which has had a long night, and will have an inevitable day. I am turning my eyes towards a hundred years to come, and I dimly see the island I am gazing on, become the road of passage and union between two hemispheres, and the centre of the world. I see its inhabitants rival Belgium in 25 populousness, France in vigour, and Spain in enthusiasm ; and I see England taught by advancing years to exercise in its behalf that good sense which is her characteristic towards every one else. The capital of that prosperous and hopeful land is situate in a beautiful bay and near a romantic region ; 30 and in it I see a flourishing University, which for a while had to struggle with fortune, but which, when its first founders and servants were dead and gone, had successes far exceeding their anxieties. Thither, as to a sacred soil, the home of their fathers, and the fountain-head of their Christianity, 35

students are flocking from East, West, and South, from America and Australia and India, from Egypt and Asia Minor, with the ease and rapidity of a locomotion not yet discovered, and last, though not least, from England,—all speaking one tongue, all owning one faith, all eager for one large true wisdom ; and thence, when their stay is over, going back again to carry over all the earth “ peace to men of good will.”

## PORTRAIT OF A GENTLEMAN.

HENCE it is that it is almost a definition of a gentleman to say he is one who never inflicts pain. This description is both refined and, as far as it goes, accurate. He is mainly occupied in merely removing the obstacles which hinder the free and unembarrassed action of those about him; and he 5 concurs with their movements rather than takes the initiative himself. His benefits may be considered as parallel to what are called comforts or conveniences in arrangements of a personal nature: like an easy chair or a good fire, which do their part in dispelling cold and fatigue, though nature pro-10 vides both means of rest and animal heat without them. The true gentleman in like manner carefully avoids whatever may cause a jar or a jolt in the minds of those with whom he is cast;—all clashing of opinion, or collision of feeling, all restraint, or suspicion, or gloom, or resentment; his great con-15 cern being to make every one at their ease and at home. He has his eyes on all his company; he is tender towards the bashful, gentle towards the distant, and merciful towards the absurd; he can recollect to whom he is speaking; he guards against unseasonable allusions, or topics which may irritate; 20 he is seldom prominent in conversation, and never wearisome. He makes light of favours while he does them, and seems to be receiving when he is conferring. He never speaks of himself except when compelled, never defends himself by a mere retort, he has no ears for slander or gossip, is scrupulous in 25 imputing motives to those who interfere with him, and interprets everything for the best. He is never mean or little

in his disputes, never takes unfair advantage, never mistakes personalities or sharp sayings for arguments, or insinuates evil which he dare not say out. From a long-sighted prudence, he observes the maxim of the ancient sage, that we should ever conduct ourselves towards our enemy as if he were one 5 day to be our friend. He has too much good sense to be affronted at insults, he is too well employed to remember injuries, and too indolent to bear malice. He is patient, forbearing, and resigned, on philosophical principles ; he submits to pain, because it is inevitable, to bereavement, because 10 it is irreparable, and to death, because it is his destiny. If he engages in controversy of any kind, his disciplined intellect preserves him from the blundering courtesy of better, perhaps, but less educated minds ; who, like blunt weapons, tear and hack instead of cutting clean, who mistake the point 15 in argument, waste their strength on trifles, misconceive their adversary, and leave the question more involved than they find it. He may be right or wrong in his opinion, but he is too clear-headed to be unjust ; he is as simple as he is forcible, and as brief as he is decisive. Nowhere shall we find greater 20 candour, consideration, indulgence : he throws himself into the minds of his opponents, he accounts for their mistakes. He knows the weakness of human reason as well as its strength, its province and its limits. If he be an unbeliever, he will be too profound and large-minded to ridicule religion 25 or to act against it ; he is too wise to be a dogmatist or fanatic in his infidelity. He respects piety and devotion ; he even supports institutions as venerable, beautiful, or useful, to which he does not assent ; he honours the ministers of religion, and it contents him to decline its mysteries without 30 assailing or denouncing them. He is a friend of religious toleration, and that, not only because his philosophy has taught him to look on all forms of faith with an impartial eye, but also from the gentleness and effeminacy of feeling, which is the attendant on civilization.

Not that he may not hold a religion too, in his own way, even when he is not a Christian. In that case his religion is one of imagination and sentiment; it is the embodiment of those ideas of the sublime, majestic, and beautiful, without which there can be no large philosophy. Sometimes 5 he acknowledges the being of God, sometimes he invests an unknown principle or quality with the attributes of perfection. And this deduction of his reason, or creation of his fancy, he makes the occasion of such excellent thoughts, and the starting-point of so varied and systematic a teaching, that he even 10 seems like a disciple of Christianity itself. From the very accuracy and steadiness of his logical powers, he is able to see what sentiments are consistent in those who hold any religious doctrine at all, and he appears to others to feel and to hold a whole circle of theological truths, which exist in his 15 mind no otherwise than as a number of deductions.

Such are some of the lineaments of the ethical character, which the cultivated intellect will form, apart from religious principle. They are seen within the pale of the Church and without it, in holy men, and in profligate; they form the 20 *beau-ideal* of the world; they partly assist and partly distort the development of the Catholic. They may subserve the education of a St. Francis de Sales or a Cardinal Pole; they may be the limits of the contemplation of a Shaftesbury or a Gibbon. Basil and Julian were fellow-students at the schools 25 of Athens; and one became the Saint and Doctor of the Church, the other her scoffing and relentless foe.

## KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING.

### 1.

It were well if the English, like the Greek language, possessed some definite word to express, simply and generally, intellectual proficiency or perfection, such as "health," as used with reference to the animal frame, and "virtue," with reference to our moral nature. I am not able to find such 5 a term ;—talent, ability, genius, belong distinctly to the raw material, which is the subject-matter, not to that excellence which is the result of exercise and training. When we turn, indeed, to the particular kinds of intellectual perfection, words are forthcoming for our purpose, as, for instance, 10 judgment, taste, and skill ; yet even these belong, for the most part, to powers or habits bearing upon practice or upon art, and not to any perfect condition of the intellect, considered in itself. Wisdom, again, is certainly a more comprehensive word than any other, but it has a direct relation 15 to conduct, and to human life. Knowledge, indeed, and Science express purely intellectual ideas, but still not a state or quality of the intellect ; for knowledge, in its ordinary sense, is but one of its circumstances, denoting a possession or a habit ; and science has been appropriated to the subject- 20 matter of the intellect, instead of belonging in English, as it ought to do, to the intellect itself. The consequence is that, on an occasion like this, many words are necessary, in order, first, to bring out and convey what surely is no difficult idea in itself,—that of the cultivation of the intellect as 25

an end ; next, in order to recommend what surely is no unreasonable object ; and lastly, to describe and make the mind realize the particular perfection in which that object consists. Every one knows practically what are the constituents of health or of virtue ; and every one recognizes health and 5 virtue as ends to be pursued ; it is otherwise with intellectual excellence, and this must be my excuse, if I seem to any one to be bestowing a good deal of labour on a preliminary matter.

In default of a recognized term, I have called the perfection 10 or virtue of the intellect by the name of philosophy, philosophical knowledge, enlargement of mind, or illumination ; terms which are not uncommonly given to it by writers of this day : but, whatever name we bestow on it, it is, I believe, as a matter of history, the business of a University to make 15 this intellectual culture its direct scope, or to employ itself in the education of the intellect,—just as the work of a Hospital lies in healing the sick or wounded, of a Riding or Fencing School, or of a Gymnasium, in exercising the limbs, of an Almshouse, in aiding and solacing the old, of an Orphanage, 20 in protecting innocence, of a Penitentiary, in restoring the guilty. I say, a University, taken in its bare idea, and before we view it as an instrument of the Church, has this object and this mission ; it contemplates neither moral impression nor mechanical production ; it professes to exercise the mind 25 neither in art nor in duty ; its function is intellectual culture ; here it may leave its scholars, and it has done its work when it has done as much as this. It educates the intellect to reason well in all matters, to reach out towards truth, and to grasp it.

30

## 2.

This, I said in my foregoing Discourse, was the object of a University, viewed in itself, and apart from the Catholic Church, or from the State, or from any other power which

may use it ; and I illustrated this in various ways. I said that the intellect must have an excellence of its own, for there was nothing which had not its specific good ; that the word " educate " would not be used of intellectual culture, as it is used, had not the intellect had an end of its own ; that, 5 bad it not such an end, there would be no meaning in calling certain intellectual exercises " liberal," in contrast with " useful," as is commonly done ; that the very notion of a philosophical temper implied it, for it threw us back upon research and system as ends in themselves, distinct from effects and 10 works of any kind ; that a philosophical scheme of knowledge, or system of sciences, could not, from the nature of the case, issue in any one definite art or pursuit, as its end ; and that, on the other hand, the discovery and contemplation of truth, to which research and systematizing led, were surely 15 sufficient ends, though nothing beyond them were added, and that they had ever been accounted sufficient by mankind.

Here then I take up the subject ; and, having determined that the cultivation of the intellect is an end distinct and sufficient in itself, and that, so far as words go it is an en- 20 largement or illumination, I proceed to inquire what this mental breadth, or power, or light, or philosophy consists in. A Hospital heals a broken limb or cures a fever : what does an Institution effect, which professes the health, not of the body, not of the soul, but of the intellect ? What is this 25 good, which in former times, as well as our own, has been found worth the notice, the appropriation, of the Catholic Church ?

I have then to investigate, in the Discourses which follow, those qualities and characteristics of the intellect in which its 30 cultivation issues or rather consists ; and, with a view of assisting myself in this undertaking, I shall recur to certain questions which have already been touched upon. These questions are three : viz. the relation of intellectual culture, first, to *mere* knowledge ; secondly, to *professional* know- 35

ledge; and thirdly, to *religious* knowledge. In other words, are *acquirements* and *attainments* the scope of a University Education? or *expertness in particular arts and pursuits?* or *moral and religious proficiency?* or something besides these three? These questions I shall examine in succession, with 5 the purpose I have mentioned; and I hope to be excused, if, in this anxious undertaking, I am led to repeat what, either in these Discourses or elsewhere, I have already put upon paper. And first, of *Mere Knowledge*, or Learning, and its connexion with intellectual illumination or Philosophy.        10

## 3.

I suppose the *prima-facie* view which the public at large would take of a University, considering it as a place of Education, is nothing more or less than a place for acquiring a great deal of knowledge on a great many subjects. Memory is one of the first developed of the mental faculties; a boy's 15 business when he goes to school is to learn, that is, to store up things in his memory. For some years his intellect is little more than an instrument for taking in facts, or a receptacle for storing them; he welcomes them as fast as they come to him; he lives on what is without; he has his eyes 20 ever about him; he has a lively susceptibility of impressions; he imbibes information of every kind; and little does he make his own in a true sense of the word, living rather upon his neighbours all around him. He has opinions, religious, political, and literary, and, for a boy, is very positive in them 25 and sure about them; but he gets them from his school-fellows, or his masters, or his parents, as the case may be. Such as he is in his other relations, such also is he in his school exercises; his mind is observant, sharp, ready, retentive; he is almost passive in the acquisition of knowledge. 30 I say this in no disparagement of the idea of a clever boy. Geography, chronology, history, language, natural history, he heaps up the matter of these studies as treasures for a future

day. It is the seven years of plenty with him : he gathers in by handfuls, like the Egyptians, without counting ; and though, as time goes on, there is exercise for his argumentative powers in the Elements of Mathematics, and for his taste in the Poets and Orators, still, while at school, or at 5 least, till quite the last years of his time, he acquires, and little more ; and when he is leaving for the University, he is mainly the creature of foreign influences and circumstances, and made up of accidents, homogeneous or not, as the case may be. Moreover, the moral habits, which are a boy's 10 praise, encourage and assist this result ; that is, diligence, assiduity, regularity, despatch, persevering application ; for these are the direct conditions of acquisition, and naturally lead to it. Acquirements, again, are emphatically producible, and at a moment ; they are a something to show, both for 15 master and scholar ; an audience, even though ignorant themselves of the subjects of an examination, can comprehend when questions are answered and when they are not. Here again is a reason why mental culture is in the minds of men identified with the acquisition of knowledge. 20

The same notion possesses the public mind, when it passes on from the thought of a school to that of a University : and with the best of reasons so far as this, that there is no true culture without acquirements, and that philosophy presupposes knowledge. It requires a great deal of reading, or a 25 wide range of information, to warrant us in putting forth our opinions on any serious subject ; and without such learning the most original mind may be able indeed to dazzle, to amuse, to refute, to perplex, but not to come to any useful result or any trustworthy conclusion. There are indeed 30 persons who profess a different view of the matter, and even act upon it. Every now and then you will find a person of vigorous or fertile mind, who relies upon his own resources, despises all former authors, and gives the world, with the utmost fearlessness, his views upon religion, or history, or 35

any other popular subject. And his works may sell for a while ; he may get a name in his day ; but this will be all. His readers are sure to find on the long run that his doctrines are mere theories, and not the expression of facts, that they are chaff instead of bread, and then his popularity drops as 5 suddenly as it rose.

Knowledge then is the indispensable condition of expansion of mind, and the instrument of attaining to it ; this cannot be denied, it is ever to be insisted on ; I begin with it as a first principle ; however, the very truth of it carries men too far, 10 and confirms to them the notion that it is the whole of the matter. A narrow mind is thought to be that which contains little knowledge ; and an enlarged mind, that which holds a great deal ; and what seems to put the matter beyond dispute is, the fact of the great number of studies which are 15 pursued in a University, by its very profession. Lectures are given on every kind of subject ; examinations are held ; prizes awarded. There are moral, metaphysical, physical Professors ; Professors of languages, of history, of mathematics, of experimental science. Lists of questions are published, 20 wonderful for their range and depth, variety and difficulty ; treatises are written, which carry upon their very face the evidence of extensive reading or multifarious information ; what then is wanting for mental culture to a person of large reading and scientific attainments ? what is grasp of mind 25 but acquirement ? where shall philosophical repose be found, but in the consciousness and enjoyment of large intellectual possessions ?

And yet this notion is, I conceive, a mistake, and my present business is to show that it is one, and that the end of a 30 Liberal Education is not mere knowledge, or knowledge considered in its *matter* ; and I shall best attain my object, by actually setting down some cases, which will be generally granted to be instances of the process of enlightenment or enlargement of mind, and others which are not, and thus, by 35

the comparison, you will be able to judge for yourselves, Gentlemen, whether Knowledge, that is, acquirement, is after all the real principle of the enlargement, or whether that principle is not rather something beyond it.

## 4.

For instance,<sup>1</sup> let a person, whose experience has hitherto 5 been confined to the more calm and unpretending scenery of these islands, whether here or in England, go for the first time into parts where physical nature puts on her wilder and more awful forms, whether at home or abroad, as into mountainous districts; or let one, who has ever lived in a quiet village, go for the first time to a great metropolis,—then I suppose he will have a sensation which perhaps he never had before. He has a feeling not in addition or increase of former feelings, but of something different in its nature. He will perhaps be borne forward, and find for a<sup>15</sup> time that he has lost his bearings. He has made a certain progress, and he has a consciousness of mental enlargement; he does not stand where he did, he has a new centre, and a range of thoughts to which he was before a stranger.

Again, the view of the heavens which the telescope opens 20 upon us, if allowed to fill and possess the mind, may almost whirl it round and make it dizzy. It brings in a flood of ideas, and is rightly called an intellectual enlargement, whatever is meant by the term.

And so again, the sight of beasts of prey and other foreign 25 animals, their strangeness, the originality (if I may use the term) of their forms and gestures and habits and their variety and independence of each other, throw us out of ourselves into another creation, and as if under another Creator, if I may so express the temptation which may come on the mind. We 30

<sup>1</sup>The pages which follow are taken almost *verbatim* from the author's 14th (Oxford) University Sermon, which, at the time of writing this Discourse, he did not expect ever to reprint.

seem to have new faculties, or a new exercise for our faculties, by this addition to our knowledge ; like a prisoner, who, having been accustomed to wear manacles or fetters, suddenly finds his arms and legs free.

Hence Physical Science generally, in all its departments, 5 as bringing before us the exuberant riches and resources, yet the orderly course, of the Universe, elevates and excites the student, and at first, I may say, almost takes away his breath, while in time it exercises a tranquillizing influence upon him.

Again, the study of history is said to enlarge and enlighten 10 the mind, and why ? because, as I conceive, it gives it a power of judging of passing events, and of all events, and a conscious superiority over them, which before it did not possess.

And in like manner, what is called seeing the world, entering into active life, going into society, travelling, gaining acquaintance with the various classes of the community, coming into contact with the principles and modes of thought of various parties, interests, and races, their views, aims, habits and manners, their religious creeds and forms of worship,—gaining experience how various yet how alike men are, how 20 low-minded, how bad, how opposed, yet how confident in their opinions ; all this exerts a perceptible influence upon the mind, which it is impossible to mistake, be it good or be it bad, and is popularly called its enlargement.

And then again, the first time the mind comes across the 25 arguments and speculations of unbelievers, and feels what a novel light they cast upon what he has hitherto accounted sacred ; and still more, if it gives in to them and embraces them, and throws off as so much prejudice what it has hitherto held, and, as if waking from a dream, begins to realize to its 30 imagination that there is now no such thing as law and the transgression of law, that sin is a phantom, and punishment a bugbear, that it is free to sin, free to enjoy the world and the flesh ; and still further, when it does enjoy them, and reflects that it may think and hold just what it will, that “ the 35

world is all before it where to choose," and what system to build up as its own private persuasion ; when this torrent of wilful thoughts rushes over and inundates it, who will deny that the fruit of the tree of knowledge, or what the mind takes for knowledge, has made it one of the gods, with a 5 sense of expansion and elevation,—an intoxication in reality, still, so far as the subjective state of the mind goes, an illumination ? Hence the fanaticism of individuals or nations, who suddenly cast off their Maker. Their eyes are opened ; and, like the judgment-stricken king in the Tragedy, they 10 see two suns, and a magic universe, out of which they look back upon their former state of faith and innocence with a sort of contempt and indignation, as if they were then but fools, and the dupes of imposture.

On the other hand, Religion has its own enlargement, 15 and an enlargement, not of tumult, but of peace. It is often remarked of uneducated persons, who have hitherto thought little of the unseen world, that, on their turning to God, looking into themselves, regulating their hearts, reforming their conduct, and meditating on death and judgment, heaven 20 and hell, they seem to become, in point of intellect, different beings from what they were. Before, they took things as they came, and thought no more of one thing than another. But now every event has a meaning ; they have their own estimate of whatever happens to them ; they are mindful of 25 times and seasons, and compare the present with the past ; and the world, no longer dull, monotonous, unprofitable, and hopeless, is a various and complicated drama, with parts and an object, and an awful moral.

## 5.

Now from these instances, to which many more might be 30 added, it is plain, first, that the communication of knowledge certainly is either a condition or the means of that sense of enlargement or enlightenment, of which at this day we hear

so much in certain quarters : this cannot be denied ; but next, it is equally plain, that such communication is not the whole of the process. The enlargement consists, not merely in the passive reception into the mind of a number of ideas hitherto unknown to it, but in the mind's energetic and 5 simultaneous action upon and towards and among those new ideas, which are rushing in upon it. It is the action of a formative power, reducing to order and meaning the matter of our acquirements ; it is a making the objects of our knowledge subjectively our own, or, to use a familiar word, 10 it is a digestion of what we receive, into the substance of our previous state of thought ; and without this no enlargement is said to follow. There is no enlargement, unless there be a comparison of ideas one with another, as they come before the mind, and a systematizing of them. We feel our minds 15 to be growing and expanding *then*, when we not only learn, but refer what we learn to what we know already. It is not the mere addition to our knowledge that is the illumination ; but the locomotion, the movement onwards, of that mental centre, to which both what we know, and what we are 20 learning, the accumulating mass of our acquirements, gravitates. And therefore a truly great intellect, and recognized to be such by the common opinion of mankind, such as the intellect of Aristotle, or of St. Thomas, or of Newton, or of Goethe, (I purposely take instances within and without the 25 Catholic pale, when I would speak of the intellect as such,) is one which takes a connected view of old and new, past and present, far and near, and which has an insight into the influence of all these one on another ; without which there is no whole, and no centre. It possesses the knowledge, not 30 only of things, but also of their mutual and true relations ; knowledge, not merely considered as acquirement, but as philosophy.

Accordingly, when this analytical, distributive, harmonizing process is away, the mind experiences no enlargement, 35

and is not reckoned as enlightened or comprehensive, whatever it may add to its knowledge. For instance, a great memory, as I have already said, does not make a philosopher, any more than a dictionary can be called a grammar. There are men who embrace in their minds a vast multitude of 5 ideas, but with little sensibility about their real relations towards each other. These may be antiquarians, annalists, naturalists ; they may be learned in the law ; they may be versed in statistics ; they are most useful in their own place ; I should shrink from speaking disrespectfully of them ; 10 still, there is nothing in such attainments to guarantee the absence of narrowness of mind. If they are nothing more than well-read men, or men of information, they have not what specially deserves the name of culture of mind, or fulfils the type of Liberal Education.

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In like manner, we sometimes fall in with persons who have seen much of the world, and of the men who, in their day, have played a conspicuous part in it, but who generalize nothing, and have no observation, in the true sense of the word. They abound in information in detail, curious and 20 entertaining, about men and things ; and, having lived under the influence of no very clear or settled principles, religious or political, they speak of every one and every thing, only as so many phenomena, which are complete in themselves, and lead to nothing, not discussing them, or teaching any truth, or instructing the hearer, but simply talking. No one would say that these persons, well informed as they are, had attained to any great culture of intellect or to philosophy.

The case is the same still more strikingly where the 30 persons in question are beyond dispute men of inferior powers and deficient education. Perhaps they have been much in foreign countries, and they receive, in a passive, otiose, unfruitful way, the various facts which are forced upon them there. Seafaring men, for example, range from 35

one end of the earth to the other ; but the multiplicity of external objects, which they have encountered, forms no symmetrical and consistent picture upon their imagination ; they see the tapestry of human life, as it were on the wrong side, and it tells no story. They sleep, and they rise up, and they find themselves, now in Europe, now in Asia ; they see visions of great cities and wild regions ; they are in the marts of commerce, or amid the islands of the South ; they gaze on Pompey's Pillar, or on the Andes ; and nothing which meets them carries them forward or backward, to any idea beyond itself. Nothing has a drift or relation ; nothing has a history or a promise. Every thing stands by itself, and comes and goes in its turn, like the shifting scenes of a show, which leave the spectator where he was. Perhaps you are near such a man on a particular occasion, and expect him to be shocked or perplexed at something which occurs ; but one thing is much the same to him as another, or, if he is perplexed, it is as not knowing what to say, whether it is right to admire, or to ridicule, or to disapprove, while conscious that some expression of opinion is expected from him ; for in fact he has no standard of judgment at all, and no landmarks to guide him to a conclusion. Such is mere acquisition, and, I repeat, no one would dream of calling it philosophy.

## 6.

Instances, such as these, confirm, by the contrast, the conclusion I have already drawn from those which preceded them. That only is true enlargement of mind which is the power of viewing many things at once as one whole, of referring them severally to their true place in the universal system, of understanding their respective values, and determining their mutual dependence. Thus is that form of Universal Knowledge, of which I have on a former occasion spoken, set up in the individual intellect, and constitutes its

perfection. Possessed of this real illumination, the mind never views any part of the extended subject-matter of Knowledge without recollecting that it is but a part, or without the associations which spring from this recollection. It makes every thing in some sort lead to every thing else ; it 5 would communicate the image of the whole to every separate portion, till that whole becomes in imagination like a spirit, every where pervading and penetrating its component parts, and giving them one definite meaning. Just as our bodily organs, when mentioned, recall their function in the body, as 10 the word " creation " suggests the Creator, and " subjects " a sovereign, so, in the mind of the Philosopher, as we are abstractedly conceiving of him, the elements of the physical and moral world, sciences, arts, pursuits, ranks, offices, events, opinions, individualities, are all viewed as one, with correla- 15 tive functions, and as gradually by successive combinations converging, one and all, to the true centre.

To have even a portion of this illuminative reason and true philosophy is the highest state to which nature can aspire, in the way of intellect ; it puts the mind above the 20 influences of chance and necessity, above anxiety, suspense, unsettlement, and superstition, which is the lot of the many. Men, whose minds are possessed with some one object, take exaggerated views of its importance, are feverish in the pursuit of it, make it the measure of things which are utterly 25 foreign to it, and are startled and despond if it happens to fail them. They are ever in alarm or in transport. Those on the other hand who have no object or principle whatever to hold by, lose their way, every step they take. They are thrown out, and do not know what to think or say, at every 30 fresh juncture ; they have no view of persons, or occurrences, or facts, which come suddenly upon them, and they hang upon the opinion of others, for want of internal resources. But the intellect, which has been disciplined to the perfection of its powers, which knows, and thinks while it knows, 35

which has learned to leaven the dense mass of facts and events with the elastic force of reason, such an intellect cannot be partial, cannot be exclusive, cannot be impetuous, cannot be at a loss, cannot but be patient, collected, and majestically calm, because it discerns the end in every beginning, the origin in every end, the law in every interruption, the limit in each delay; because it ever knows where it stands, and how its path lies from one point to another. It is the *τετράγωνος* of the Peripatetic, and has the "nil admirari" of the Stoic,—

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Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas,  
Atque metus omnes, et inexorabile fatum  
Subjecit pedibus, strepitumque Acherontis avari.

There are men who, when in difficulties, originate at the moment vast ideas or dazzling projects; who, under the influence of excitement, are able to cast a light, almost as if from inspiration, on a subject or course of action which comes before them; who have a sudden presence of mind equal to any emergency, rising with the occasion, and an undaunted magnanimous bearing, and an energy and keenness which is but made intense by opposition. This is genius, this is heroism; it is the exhibition of a natural gift, which no culture can teach, at which no Institution can aim; here, on the contrary, we are concerned, not with mere nature, but with training and teaching. That perfection of the Intellect, which is the result of Education, and its *beau ideal*, to be imparted to individuals in their respective measures, is the clear, calm, accurate vision and comprehension of all things, as far as the finite mind can embrace them, each in its place, and with its own characteristics upon it. 15 It is almost prophetic from its knowledge of history; it is almost heart-searching from its knowledge of human nature; it has almost supernatural charity from its freedom from littleness and prejudice; it has almost the repose of faith,

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because nothing can startle it; it has almost the beauty and harmony of heavenly contemplation, so intimate is it with the eternal order of things and the music of the spheres.

## 7.

And now, if I may take for granted that the true and adequate end of intellectual training and of a University 5 is not Learning or Acquirement, but rather, is Thought or Reason exercised upon Knowledge, or what may be called Philosophy, I shall be in a position to explain the various mistakes which at the present day beset the subject of Uni- 10 versity Education.

I say then, if we would improve the intellect, first of all, we must ascend; we cannot gain real knowledge on a level; we must generalize, we must reduce to method, we must have a grasp of principles, and group and shape our acquisitions by means of them. It matters not whether our 15 field of operation be wide or limited; in every case, to command it, is to mount above it. Who has not felt the irritation of mind and impatience created by a deep, rich country, visited for the first time, with winding lanes, and high hedges, and green steeps, and tangled woods, and every thing smiling 20 indeed, but in a maze? The same feeling comes upon us in a strange city, when we have no map of its streets. Hence you hear of practised travellers, when they first come into a place, mounting some high hill or church tower, by way of reconnoitring its neighbourhood. In like manner, you must 25 be above your knowledge, not under it, or it will oppress you; and the more you have of it, the greater will be the load. The learning of a Salmasius or a Burman, unless you are its master, will be your tyrant. "Imperat aut servit;" if you can wield it with a strong arm, it is a great weapon; other- 30 wise,

Vis consili expers  
Mole ruit suâ.

You will be overwhelmed, like Tarpeia, by the heavy wealth which you have exacted from tributary generations.

Instances abound ; there are authors who are as pointless as they are inexhaustible in their literary resources. They measure knowledge by bulk, as it lies in the rude block, 5 without symmetry, without design. How many commentators are there on the Classics, how many on Holy Scripture, from whom we rise up, wondering at the learning which has passed before us, and wondering why it passed ! How many writers are there of Ecclesiastical History, such as 10 Mosheim or Du Pin, who, breaking up their subject into details, destroy its life, and defraud us of the whole by their anxiety about the parts ! The Sermons, again, of the English Divines in the seventeenth century, how often are they mere repertories of miscellaneous and officious learning !<sup>15</sup> Of course Catholics also may read without thinking ; and in their case, equally as with Protestants, it holds good, that such knowledge is unworthy of the name, knowledge which they have not thought through, and thought out. Such readers are only possessed by their knowledge, not possessed 20 of it ; nay, in matter of fact they are often even carried away by it, without any volition of their own. Recollect, the Memory can tyrannize, as well as the Imagination. Derangement, I believe, has been considered as a loss of control over the sequence of ideas. The mind, once set in motion, 25 is henceforth deprived of the power of initiation, and becomes the victim of a train of associations, one thought suggesting another, in the way of cause and effect, as if by a mechanical process, or some physical necessity. No one, who has had experience of men of studious habits, but must recognize the 30 existence of a parallel phenomenon in the case of those who have over-stimulated the Memory. In such persons Reason acts almost as feebly and as impotently as in the madman ; once fairly started on any subject whatever, they have no power of self-control ; they passively endure the succession 35

of impulses which are evolved out of the original exciting cause ; they are passed on from one idea to another and go steadily forward, plodding along one line of thought in spite of the amplest concessions of the hearer, or wandering from it in endless digression in spite of his remonstrances. Now, 5 if, as is very certain, no one would envy the madman the glow and originality of his conceptions, why must we extol the cultivation of that intellect, which is the prey, not indeed of barren fancies but of barren facts, of random intrusions from without, though not of morbid imaginations from 10 within ? And in thus speaking, I am not denying that a strong and ready memory is in itself a real treasure ; I am not disparaging a well-stored mind, though it be nothing besides, provided it be sober, any more than I would despise a bookseller's shop :—it is of great value to others, even when 15 not so to the owner. Nor am I banishing, far from it, the possessors of deep and multifarious learning from my ideal University ; they adorn it in the eyes of men ; I do but say that they constitute no type of the results at which it aims ; that it is no great gain to the intellect to have enlarged the 20 memory at the expense of faculties which are indisputably higher.

## 8.

Nor indeed am I supposing that there is any great danger, at least in this day, of over-education ; the danger is on the other side. I will tell you, Gentlemen, what has been the 25 practical error of the last twenty years,—not to load the memory of the student with a mass of undigested knowledge, but to force upon him so much that he has rejected all. It has been the error of distracting and enfeebling the mind by an unmeaning profusion of subjects ; of implying that a 30 smattering in a dozen branches of study is not shallowness, which it really is, but enlargement, which it is not ; of considering an acquaintance with the learned names of things

and persons, and the possession of clever duodecimos, and attendance on eloquent lecturers, and membership with scientific institutions, and the sight of the experiments of a platform and the specimens of a museum, that all this was not dissipation of mind, but progress. All things now are to be learned at once, not first one thing, then another, not one well, but many badly. Learning is to be without exertion, without attention, without toil ; without grounding, without advance, without finishing. There is to be nothing individual in it ; and this, forsooth, is the wonder of the age. What 10 the steam engine does with matter, the printing press is to do with mind ; it is to act mechanically, and the population is to be passively, almost unconsciously enlightened, by the mere multiplication and dissemination of volumes. Whether it be the school boy, or the school girl, or the youth at college, 15 or the mechanic in the town, or the politician in the senate, all have been the victims in one way or other of this most preposterous and pernicious of delusions. Wise men have lifted up their voices in vain ; and at length, lest their own institutions should be outshone and should disappear in the 20 folly of the hour, they have been obliged, as far as they could with a good conscience, to humour a spirit which they could not withstand, and make temporizing concessions at which they could not but inwardly smile.

It must not be supposed that, because I so speak, therefore 25 I have some sort of fear of the education of the people : on the contrary, the more education they have, the better, so that it is really education. Nor am I an enemy to the cheap publication of scientific and literary works, which is now in vogue : on the contrary, I consider it a great advantage, con- 30 venience, and gain ; that is, to those to whom education has given a capacity for using them. Further, I consider such innocent recreations as science and literature are able to furnish will be a very fit occupation of the thoughts and the leisure of young persons, and may be made the means of 35

keeping them from bad employments and bad companions. Moreover, as to that superficial acquaintance with chemistry, and geology, and astronomy, and political economy, and modern history, and biography, and other branches of knowledge, which periodical literature and occasional lectures and scientific institutions diffuse through the community, I think it a graceful accomplishment, and a suitable, nay, in this day a necessary accomplishment, in the case of educated men. Nor, lastly, am I disparaging or discouraging the thorough acquisition of any one of these studies, or denying that, as far as it goes, such thorough acquisition is a real education of the mind. All I say is, call things by their right names, and do not confuse together ideas which are essentially different. A thorough knowledge of one science and a superficial acquaintance with many, are not the same thing ; a smattering of a hundred things or a memory for detail, is not a philosophical or comprehensive view. Recreations are not education ; accomplishments are not education. Do not say, the people must be educated, when, after all, you only mean, amused, refreshed, soothed, put into good spirits and good humour, or kept from vicious excesses. I do not say that such amusements, such occupations of mind, are not a great gain ; but they are not education. You may as well call drawing and fencing education, as a general knowledge of botany or conchology. Stuffing birds or playing stringed instruments is an elegant pastime, and a resource to the idle, but it is not education ; it does not form or cultivate the intellect. Education is a high word ; it is the preparation for knowledge, and it is the imparting of knowledge in proportion to that preparation. We require intellectual eyes to know withal, as bodily eyes for sight. We need both objects and organs intellectual ; we cannot gain them without setting about it ; we cannot gain them in our sleep, or by hap-hazard. The best telescope does not dispense with eyes ; the printing press or the lecture room will assist us greatly, but we must

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be true to ourselves, we must be parties in the work. A University is, according to the usual designation, an Alma Mater, knowing her children one by one, not a foundry, or a mint, or a treadmill.

## 9.

I protest to you, Gentlemen, that if I had to choose between 5  
a so-called University, which dispensed with residence and  
tutorial superintendence, and gave its degrees to any person  
who passed an examination in a wide range of subjects, and  
a University which had no professors or examinations at all,  
but merely brought a number of young men together for three 10  
or four years, and then sent them away as the University of  
Oxford is said to have done some sixty years since, if I were  
asked which of these two methods was the better discipline  
of the intellect,—mind, I do not say which is *morally* the  
better, for it is plain that compulsory study must be a good 15  
and idleness an intolerable mischief,—but if I must determine  
which of the two courses was the more successful in training,  
moulding, enlarging the mind, which sent out men the more  
fitted for their secular duties, which produced better public  
men, men of the world, men whose names would descend to 20  
posterity, I have no hesitation in giving the preference to that  
University which did nothing, over that which exacted of its  
members an acquaintance with every science under the sun.  
And, paradox as this may seem, still if results be the test of  
systems, the influence of the public schools and colleges of 25  
England, in the course of the last century, at least will bear  
out one side of the contrast as I have drawn it. What would  
come, on the other hand, of the ideal systems of education  
which have fascinated the imagination of this age, could they  
ever take effect, and whether they would not produce a genera- 30  
tion frivolous, narrow-minded, and resourceless, intellectually  
considered, is a fair subject for debate; but so far is certain,  
that the Universities and scholastic establishments, to which

I refer, and which did little more than bring together first boys and then youths in large numbers, these institutions, with miserable deformities on the side of morals, with a hollow profession of Christianity, and a heathen code of ethics,—I say, at least they can boast of a succession of heroes 5 and statesmen, of literary men and philosophers, of men conspicuous for great natural virtues, for habits of business, for knowledge of life, for practical judgment, for cultivated tastes, for accomplishments, who have made England what it is,—able to subdue the earth, able to domineer over 10 Catholics.

How is this to be explained? I suppose as follows: When a multitude of young men, keen, open-hearted, sympathetic, and observant, as young men are, come together and freely mix with each other, they are sure to learn one from another, 15 even if there be no one to teach them; the conversation of all is a series of lectures to each, and they gain for themselves new ideas and views, fresh matter of thought, and distinct principles for judging and acting, day by day. An infant has to learn the meaning of the information which its senses convey to it, and this seems to be its employment. It fancies all that the eye presents to it to be close to it, till it actually learns the contrary, and thus by practice does it ascertain the relations and uses of those first elements of knowledge which are necessary for its animal existence. A parallel teaching is 25 necessary for our social being, and it is secured by a large school or a college; and this effect may be fairly called in its own department an enlargement of mind. It is seeing the world on a small field with little trouble; for the pupils or students come from very different places, and with widely different notions, and there is much to generalize, much to adjust, much to eliminate, there are inter-relations to be defined, and conventional rules to be established, in the process, by which the whole assemblage is moulded together, and gains one tone and one character.

Let it be clearly understood, I repeat it, that I am not taking into account moral or religious considerations ; I am but saying that that youthful community will constitute a whole, it will embody a specific idea, it will represent a doctrine, it will administer a code of conduct, and it will 5 furnish principles of thought and action. It will give birth to a living teaching, which in course of time will take the shape of a self-perpetuating tradition, or a *genius loci*, as it is sometimes called ; which haunts the home where it has been born, and which imbues and forms, more or less, and 10 one by one, every individual who is successively brought under its shadow. Thus it is that, independent of direct instruction on the part of Superiors, there is a sort of self-education in the academic institutions of Protestant England ; a characteristic tone of thought, a recognized standard of 15 judgment is found in them, which, as developed in the individual who is submitted to it, becomes a twofold source of strength to him, both from the distinct stamp it impresses on his mind, and from the bond of union which it creates between him and others,—effects which are shared by the 20 authorities of the place, for they themselves have been educated in it, and at all times are exposed to the influence of its ethical atmosphere. Here then is a real teaching, whatever be its standards and principles, true or false ; and it at least tends towards cultivation of the intellect ; it at 25 least recognizes that knowledge is something more than a sort of passive reception of scraps and details ; it is a something, and it does a something, which never will issue from the most strenuous efforts of a set of teachers, with no mutual sympathies and no inter-communion, of a set of examiners 30 with no opinions which they dare profess, and with no common principles, who are teaching or questioning a set of youths who do not know them, and do not know each other, on a large number of subjects, different in kind, and connected by no wide philosophy, three times a week, or three 35

times a year, or once in three years, in chill lecture-rooms or on a pompous anniversary.

## 10.

Nay, self-education in any shape, in the most restricted sense, is preferable to a system of teaching which, professing so much, really does so little for the mind. Shut your 5 College gates against the votary of knowledge, throw him back upon the searchings and the efforts of his own mind ; he will gain by being spared an entrance into your Babel. Few indeed there are who can dispense with the stimulus and support of instructors, or will do anything at all, if left 10 to themselves. And fewer still (though such great minds are to be found), who will not, from such unassisted attempts, contract a self-reliance and a self-esteem, which are not only moral evils, but serious hindrances to the attainment of truth. And next to none, perhaps, or none, who will not be re-15 minded from time to time of the disadvantage under which they lie, by their imperfect grounding, by the breaks, deficiencies, and irregularities of their knowledge, by the eccentricity of opinion and the confusion of principle which they exhibit. They will be too often ignorant of what every 20 one knows and takes for granted, of that multitude of small truths which fall upon the mind like dust, impalpable and ever accumulating ; they may be unable to converse, they may argue perversely, they may pride themselves on their worst paradoxes or their grossest truisms, they may be full of their 25 own mode of viewing things, unwilling to be put out of their way, slow to enter into the minds of others ;—but, with these and whatever other liabilities upon their heads, they are likely to have more thought, more mind, more philosophy, more true enlargement, than those earnest but ill-used persons, who are forced to load their minds with a score of subjects against an examination, who have too much on their hands to indulge themselves in thinking or investiga-

tion, who devour premiss and conclusion together with indiscriminate greediness, who hold whole sciences on faith, and commit demonstrations to memory, and who too often, as might be expected, when their period of education is passed, throw up all they have learned in disgust, having 5 gained nothing really by their anxious labours, except perhaps the habit of application.

Yet such is the better specimen of the fruit of that ambitious system which has of late years been making way among us: for its result on ordinary minds, and on the 10 common run of students, is less satisfactory still; they leave their place of education simply dissipated and relaxed by the multiplicity of subjects, which they have never really mastered, and so shallow as not even to know their shallowness. How much better, I say, is it for the active and 15 thoughtful intellect, where such is to be found, to eschew the College and the University altogether, than to submit to a drudgery so ignoble, a mockery so contumelious! How much more profitable for the independent mind, after the mere rudiments of education, to range through a library at 20 random, taking down books as they meet him, and pursuing the trains of thought which his mother wit suggests! How much healthier to wander into the fields, and there with the exiled Prince to find "tongues in the trees, books in the running brooks!" How much more genuine an education 25 is that of the poor boy in the Poem<sup>1</sup>—a Poem, whether in conception or in execution, one of the most touching in our language—who, not in the wide world, but ranging day by day around his widowed mother's home, "a dexterous

<sup>1</sup> Crabbe's Tales of the Hall. This Poem, let me say, I read on its first publication, above thirty years ago, with extreme delight, and have never lost my love of it; and on taking it up lately, found I was even more touched by it than heretofore. A work which can please in youth and age, seems to fulfil (in logical language) the *accidental definition* of a Classic. [A further course of twenty years has past, and I bear the same witness in favour of this Poem.]

gleaner" in a narrow field, and with only such slender outfit

"as the village school and books a few  
Supplied,"

contrived from the beach, and the quay, and the fisher's boat, and the inn's fireside, and the tradesman's shop, and the shepherd's walk, and the smuggler's hut, and the mossy moor, and the screaming gulls, and the restless waves, to fashion for himself a philosophy and a poetry of his own !

## THE BENEFITS OF UNIVERSITY TRAINING.

To-DAY I have confined myself to saying that that training of the intellect, which is best for the individual himself, best enables him to discharge his duties to society. The Philosopher, indeed, and the man of the world differ in their very notion, but the methods, by which they are respectively 5 formed, are pretty much the same. The Philosopher has the same command of matters of thought, which the true citizen and gentleman has of matters of business and conduct. If then a practical end must be assigned to a University course, I say it is that of training good members of society. Its art is 10 the art of social life, and its end is fitness for the world. It neither confines its views to particular professions on the one hand, nor creates heroes or inspires genius on the other. Works indeed of genius fall under no art; heroic minds come under no rule; a University is not a birthplace of poets or of 15 immortal authors, of founders of schools, leaders of colonies, or conquerors of nations. It does not promise a generation of Aristotles or Newtons, of Napoleons or Washingtons, of Raphaels or Shakespeares, though such miracles of nature it has before now contained within its precincts. Nor is it 20 content on the other hand with forming the critic or the experimentalist, the economist or the engineer, though such too it includes within its scope. But a University training is the great ordinary means to a great but ordinary end; it aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at cultivating the 25 public mind, at purifying the national taste, at supplying true principles to popular enthusiasm and fixed aims to

popular aspiration, at giving enlargement and sobriety to the ideas of the age, at facilitating the exercise of political power, and refining the intercourse of private life. It is the education which gives a man a clear conscious view of his own opinions and judgments, a truth in developing them, an 5 eloquence in expressing them, and a force in urging them. It teaches him to see things as they are, to go right to the point, to disentangle a skein of thought, to detect what is sophistical, and to discard what is irrelevant. It prepares him to fill any post with credit, and to master any subject 10 with facility. It shows him how to accommodate himself to others, how to throw himself into their state of mind, how to bring before them his own, how to influence them, how to come to an understanding with them, how to bear with them. He is at home in any society, he has common ground with 15 every class; he knows when to speak and when to be silent; he is able to converse, he is able to listen; he can ask a question pertinently, and gain a lesson seasonably, when he has nothing to impart himself; he is ever ready, yet never in . the way; he is a pleasant companion, and a comrade you 20 can depend upon; he knows when to be serious and when to trifle, and he has a sure tact which enables him to trifle with gracefulness and to be serious with effect. He has the repose of a mind which lives in itself, while it lives in the world, and which has resources for its happiness at home when it cannot 25 go abroad. He has a gift which serves him in public, and supports him in retirement, without which good fortune is but vulgar, and with which failure and disappointment have a charm. The art which tends to make a man all this, is in the object which it pursues as useful as the art of wealth or the 30 art of health, though it is less susceptible of method, and less tangible, less certain, less complete in its result.

## LITERATURE.

### 1.

WISHING to address you, Gentlemen, at the commencement of a new Session, I tried to find a subject for discussion, which might be at once suitable to the occasion, yet neither too large for your time, nor too minute or abstruse for your attention. I think I see one for my purpose in the very title 5 of your Faculty. It is the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters. Now the question may arise as to what is meant by "Philosophy," and what is meant by "Letters." As to the other Faculties, the subject-matter which they profess is intelligible, as soon as named, and beyond all dispute. We know what 10 Science is, what Medicine, what Law, and what Theology; but we have not so much ease in determining what is meant by Philosophy and Letters. Each department of that two-fold province needs explanation: it will be sufficient, on an occasion like this, to investigate one of them. Accordingly I 115 shall select for remark the latter of the two, and attempt to determine what we are to understand by Letters or Literature, in what Literature consists, and how it stands relatively to Science. We speak, for instance, of ancient and modern literature, the literature of the day, sacred literature, light 20 literature; and our lectures in this place are devoted to classical literature and English literature. Are Letters, then, synonymous with books? This cannot be, or they would include in their range Philosophy, Law, and, in short, the teaching of all the other Faculties. Far from confusing these 25

various studies, we view the works of Plato or Cicero sometimes as philosophy, sometimes as literature ; on the other hand, no one would ever be tempted to speak of Euclid as literature, or of Matthiae's Greek Grammar. Is, then, literature synonymous with composition ? with books written with an 5 attention to style ? is literature fine writing ? again, is it studied and artificial writing ?

There are excellent persons who seem to adopt this last account of Literature as their own idea of it. They deprecate it, as if it were the result of a mere art or trick of 10 words. Professedly indeed, they are aiming at the Greek and Roman classics, but their criticisms have quite as great force against all literature as against any. I think I shall be best able to bring out what I have to say on the subject by examining the statements which they make in defence of their 15 own view of it. They contend then, 1. that fine writing, as exemplified in the Classics, is mainly a matter of conceits, fancies, and prettinesses decked out in choice words ; 2. that this is the proof of it, that the classics will not bear translating ;—(and this is why I have said that the real attack is 20 upon literature altogether, not the classical only ; for, to speak generally, all literature, modern as well as ancient, lies under this disadvantage. This, however, they will not allow ; for they maintain), 3. that Holy Scripture presents a remarkable contrast to secular writings on this very point, viz., in 25 that Scripture does easily admit of translation, though it is the most sublime and beautiful of all writings.

## 2.

Now I will begin by stating these three positions in the words of a writer, who is cited by the estimable Catholics in question as a witness, or rather as an advocate, in their be- 30 half, though he is far from being able in his own person to challenge the respect which is inspired by themselves.

" There are two sorts of eloquence," says this writer, " the

one indeed scarce deserves the name of it, which consists chiefly in laboured and polished periods, an over-curious and artificial arrangement of figures, tinselled over with a gaudy embellishment of words, which glitter, but convey little or no light to the understanding. This kind of writing is for the 5 most part much affected and admired by the people of weak judgment and vicious taste ; but it is a piece of affectation and formality the sacred writers are utter strangers to. It is a vain and boyish eloquence ; and, as it has always been esteemed below the great geniuses of all ages, so much more 10 so with respect to those writers who were actuated by the spirit of Infinite Wisdom, and therefore wrote with that force and majesty with which never man writ. The other sort of eloquence is quite the reverse to this, and which may be said to be the true characteristic of the Holy Scriptures ; where the 15 excellence does not arise from a laboured and far-fetched elocution, but from a surprising mixture of simplicity and majesty, which is a double character, so difficult to be united that it is seldom to be met with in compositions merely human. We see nothing in Holy Writ of affectation and 20 superfluous ornament . . . Now, it is observable that the most excellent profane authors, whether Greek or Latin, lose most of their graces whenever we find them literally translated. Homer's famed representation of Jupiter—his cried-up description of a tempest, his relation of Neptune's shaking the 25 earth and opening it to its centre, his description of Pallas's horses, with numbers of other long-since admired passages, flag, and almost vanish away, in the vulgar Latin translation.

" Let any one but take the pains to read the common Latin interpretations of Virgil, Theocritus, or even of Pindar, 30 and one may venture to affirm he will be able to trace out but few remains of the graces which charmed him so much in the original. The natural conclusion from hence is, that in the classical authors, the expression, the sweetness of the numbers, occasioned by a musical placing of words, constitute 35

a great part of their beauties; whereas, in the sacred writings, they consist more in the greatness of the things themselves than in the words and expressions. The ideas and conceptions are so great and lofty in their own nature that they necessarily appear magnificent in the 'most artless dress.' 5  
Look but into the Bible, and we see them shine through the most simple and literal translations. That glorious description which Moses gives of the creation of the heavens and the earth, which Longinus . . . was so greatly taken with, has not lost the least whit of its intrinsic worth, and though 10 it has undergone so many translations, yet triumphs over all, and breaks forth with as much force and vehemence as in the original. . . . In the history of Joseph, where Joseph makes himself known, and weeps aloud upon the neck of his dear brother Benjamin, that all the house of Pharaoh 15 heard him, at that instant none of his brethren are introduced as uttering aught, either to express their present joy or palliate their former injuries to him. On all sides there immediately ensues a deep and solemn silence; a silence infinitely more eloquent and expressive than anything else 20 that could have been substituted in its place. Had Thucydides, Herodotus, Livy, or any of the celebrated classical historians, been employed in writing this history, when they came to this point they would doubtless have exhausted all their fund of eloquence in furnishing Joseph's brethren with 25 laboured and studied harangues, which, however fine they might have been in themselves, would nevertheless have been unnatural, and altogether improper on the occasion."<sup>1</sup>

This is eloquently written, but it contains, I consider, a mixture of truth and falsehood, which it will be my business 30 to discriminate from each other. Far be it from me to deny the unapproachable grandeur and simplicity of Holy Scripture; but I shall maintain that the classics are, as human compositions, simple and majestic and natural too. I grant

<sup>1</sup> Sterne, Sermon xlii.

that Scripture is concerned with things, but I will not grant that classical literature is simply concerned with words. I grant that human literature is often elaborate, but I will maintain that elaborate composition is not unknown to the writers of Scripture.<sup>1</sup> I grant that human literature cannot 5 easily be translated out of the particular language to which it belongs; but it is not at all the rule that Scripture can easily be translated either;—and now I address myself to my task:—

## 3.

Here, then, in the first place, I observe, Gentlemen, that 10 Literature, from the derivation of the word, implies writing, not speaking; this, however, arises from the circumstance of the copiousness, variety, and public circulation of the matters of which it consists. What is spoken cannot outrun the range of the speaker's voice, and perishes in the uttering. 15 When words are in demand to express a long course of thought, when they have to be conveyed to the ends of the earth, or perpetuated for the benefit of posterity, they must be written down, that is, reduced to the shape of literature; still, properly speaking, the terms, by which we 20 denote this characteristic gift of man, belong to its exhibition by means of the voice, not of handwriting. It addresses itself, in its primary idea, to the ear, not to the eye. We call it the power of speech, we call it language, that is, the use of the tongue; and, even when we write, we still keep 25 in mind what was its original instrument, for we use freely such terms in our books as “saying,” “speaking,” “telling,” “talking,” “calling”; we use the terms “phraseology” and “diction”; as if we were still addressing ourselves to the ear. Now I insist on this, because it shows that speech, and 30 therefore literature, which is its permanent record, is essentially a personal work. It is not some production or result, attained by the partnership of several persons, or by

machinery, or by any natural process, but in its very idea it proceeds, and must proceed, from some one given individual. Two persons cannot be the authors of the sounds which strike our ear; and, as they cannot be speaking one and the same speech, neither can they be writing one and 5 the same lecture or discourse,—which must certainly belong to some one person or other, and is the expression of that one person's ideas and feelings,—ideas and feelings personal to himself, though others may have parallel and similar ones,—proper to himself, in the same sense as his voice, his 10 air, his countenance, his carriage, and his action, are personal. In other words, Literature expresses, not objective truth, as it is called, but subjective ; not things, but thoughts.

Now this doctrine will become clearer by considering another use of words, which does relate to objective truth, or 15 things; which relates to matters, not personal, not subjective to the individual, but which, even were there no individual man in the whole world to know them or to talk about them, would exist still. Such objects become the matter of Science, and words indeed are used to express them, 20 but such words are rather symbols than language, and however many we use, and however we may perpetuate them by writing, we never could make any kind of literature out of them, or call them by that name. Such, for instance, would be Euclid's Elements ; they relate to truths universal and 25 eternal ; they are not mere thoughts, but things : they exist in themselves, not by virtue of our understanding them, not in dependence upon our will, but in what is called the *nature* of things, or at least on conditions external to us. The words, then, in which they are set forth are not language, speech, 30 literature, but rather, as I have said, symbols. And, as a proof of it, you will recollect that it is possible, nay usual, to set forth the propositions of Euclid in algebraical notation, which, as all would admit, has nothing to do with literature. What is true of mathematics is true also of every study, so 35

far forth as it is scientific ; it makes use of words as the mere vehicle of things, and is thereby withdrawn from the province of literature. Thus metaphysics, ethics, law, political economy, chemistry, theology, cease to be literature in the same degree as they are capable of a severe scientific treatment. And hence it is that Aristotle's works on the one hand, though at first sight literature, approach in character, at least a great number of them, to mere science ; for even though the things which he treats of and exhibits may not always be real and true, yet he treats them as if they were, not as if they were the thoughts of his own mind ; that is, he treats them scientifically. On the other hand, Law or Natural History has before now been treated by an author with so much of colouring derived from his own mind as to become a sort of literature ; this is especially seen in the instance of Theology, when it takes the shape of Pulpit Eloquence. It is seen too in historical composition, which becomes a mere specimen of chronology, or a chronicle, when divested of the philosophy, the skill, or the party and personal feelings of the particular writer. Science, then, has to do with things, literature with thoughts ; science is universal, literature is personal ; science uses words merely as symbols, but literature uses language in its full compass, as including phraseology, idiom, style, composition, rhythm, eloquence, and whatever other properties are included in it.

25

Let us then put aside the scientific use of words, when we are to speak of language and literature. Literature is the personal use or exercise of language. That this is so is further proved from the fact that one author uses it so differently from another. Language itself in its very original-30 tion would seem to be traceable to individuals. Their peculiarities have given it its character. We are often able in fact to trace particular phrases or idioms to individuals ; we know the history of their rise. Slang surely, as it is called, comes of, and breathes of the personal. The connexion be-35

tween the force of words in particular languages and the habits and sentiments of the nations speaking them has often been pointed out. And, while many use language as they find it, the man of genius uses it indeed, but subjects it withal to his own purposes, and moulds it according to his own 5 peculiarities. The throng and succession of ideas, thoughts, feelings, imaginations, aspirations, which pass within him, the abstractions, the juxtapositions, the comparisons, the discriminations, the conceptions, which are so original in him, his views of external things, his judgments upon life, 10 manners, and history, the exercises of his wit, of his humour, of his depth, of his sagacity, all these innumerable and incessant creations, the very pulsation and throbbing of his intellect, does he image forth, to all does he give utterance, in a corresponding language, which is as multiform as this inward 15 mental action itself and analogous to it, the faithful expression of his intense personality, attending on his own inward world of thought as its very shadow : so that we might as well say that one man's shadow is another's as that the style of a really gifted mind can belong to any but himself. It 20 follows him about as a shadow. His thought and feeling are personal, and so his language is personal.

## 4.

Thought and speech are inseparable from each other. Matter and expression are parts of one : style is a thinking out into language. This is what I have been laying down, 25 and this is literature ; not *things*, not the verbal symbols of things ; not on the other hand mere *words* ; but thoughts expressed in language. Call to mind, Gentlemen, the meaning of the Greek word which expresses this special prerogative of man over the feeble intelligence of the inferior animals. 30 It is called Logos : what does Logos mean ? it stands both for *reason* and for *speech*, and it is difficult to say which it means more properly. It means both at once : why ? because

really they cannot be divided,—because they are in a true sense one. When we can separate light and illumination, life and motion, the convex and the concave of a curve, then will it be possible for thought to tread speech under foot, and to hope to do without it—then will it be conceivable that the vigorous and fertile intellect should renounce its own double, its instrument of expression, and the channels of its speculations and emotions.

Critics should consider this view of the subject before they lay down such canons of taste as the writer whose pages I 10 have quoted. Such men as he consider fine writing to be an *addition from without* to the matter treated of,—a sort of ornament superinduced, or a luxury indulged in, by those who have time and inclination for such vanities. They speak as if *one man* could do the thought, and *another* the 15 style. We read in Persian travels of the way in which young gentlemen go to work in the East, when they would engage in correspondence with those who inspire them with hope or fear. They cannot write one sentence themselves; so they betake themselves to the professional letter-writer: 20 They confide to him the object they have in view. They have a point to gain from a superior, a favour to ask, an evil to deprecate; they have to approach a man in power, or to make court to some beautiful lady. The professional man manufactures words for them, as they are wanted, as a 25 stationer sells them paper, or a schoolmaster might cut their pens. Thought and word are, in their conception, two things, and thus there is a division of labour. The man of thought comes to the man of words; and the man of words, duly instructed in the thought, dips the pen of desire into the ink 30 of devotedness, and proceeds to spread it over the page of desolation. Then the nightingale of affection is heard to warble to the rose of loveliness, while the breeze of anxiety plays around the brow of expectation. This is what the Easterns are said to consider fine writing; and it seems pretty 35

much the idea of the school of critics to whom I have been referring.

We have an instance in literary history of this very proceeding nearer home, in a great University, in the latter years of the last century. I have referred to it before now in 5 a public lecture elsewhere;<sup>1</sup> but it is too much in point here to be omitted. A learned Arabic scholar had to deliver a set of lectures before its doctors and professors on an historical subject in which his reading had lain. A linguist is conver-  
sant with science rather than with literature ; but this gentle-  
man felt that his lectures must not be without a style. Being  
of the opinion of the Orientals, with whose writings he was  
familiar, he determined to buy a style. He took the step of  
engaging a person, at a price, to turn the matter which he  
had got together into ornamental English. Observe, he did 15  
not wish for mere grammatical English, but for an elaborate,  
pretentious style. An artist was found in the person of a  
country curate, and the job was carried out. His lectures  
remain to this day, in their own place in the protracted series  
of annual Discourses to which they belong, distinguished 20  
amid a number of heavyish compositions by the rhetorical  
and ambitious diction for which he went into the market.  
This learned divine, indeed, and the author I have quoted,  
differ from each other in the estimate they respectively form  
of literary composition ; but they agree together in this,—in 25  
considering such composition a trick and a trade ; they put  
it on a par with the gold plate and the flowers and the music  
of a banquet, which do not make the viands better, but the  
entertainment more pleasurable ; as if language were the  
hired servant, the mere mistress of the reason, and not the 30  
lawful wife in her own house.

But can they really think that Homer, or Pindar, or Shakespeare, or Dryden, or Walter Scott, were accustomed to aim at diction for its own sake, instead of being inspired

<sup>1</sup> "Position of Catholics in England," pp. 101-2.

with their subject, and pouring forth beautiful words because they had beautiful thoughts ? this is surely too great a paradox to be borne. Rather, it is the fire within the author's breast which overflows in the torrent of his burning, irresistible eloquence ; it is the poetry of his inner soul, which 5 relieves itself in the Ode or the Elegy ; and his mental attitude and bearing, the beauty of his moral countenance, the force and keenness of his logic, are imaged in the tenderness, or energy, or richness of his language. Nay, according to the well-known line, "facit indignatio *versus* ;" not the 10 words alone, but even the rhythm, the metre, the verse, will be the contemporaneous offspring of the emotion or imagination which possesses him. "Poeta nascitur, non fit," says the proverb ; and this is in numerous instances true of his poems, as well as of himself. They are born, not framed ; 15 they are a strain rather than a composition ; and their perfection is the monument, not so much of his skill as of his power. And this is true of prose as well as of verse in its degree : who will not recognize in the vision of Mirza a delicacy and beauty of style which is very difficult to describe, 20 but which is felt to be in exact correspondence to the ideas of which it is the expression ?

## 5.

And, since the thoughts and reasonings of an author have, as I have said, a personal character, no wonder that his style is not only the image of his subject, but of his mind. 25 That pomp of language, that full and tuneful diction, that felicitousness in the choice and exquisiteness in the collocation of words, which to prosaic writers seems artificial, is nothing else but the mere habit and way of a lofty intellect. Aristotle, in his sketch of the magnanimous man, tells us that his voice 30 is deep, his motions slow, and his stature commanding. In like manner, the elocution of a great intellect is great. His language expresses, not only his great thoughts, but his great

self. Certainly he might use fewer words than he uses; but he fertilizes his simplest ideas, and germinates into a multitude of details, and prolongs the march of his sentences, and sweeps round to the full diapason of his harmony, as if  $\kappa\delta\epsilon\iota$   $\gamma\alpha\omega\nu$ , rejoicing in his own vigour and richness of resource. 5 I say, a narrow critic will call it verbiage, when really it is a sort of fulness of heart, parallel to that which makes the merry boy whistle as he walks, or the strong man, like the smith in the novel, flourish his club when there is no one to fight with. 10

Shakespeare furnishes us with frequent instances of this peculiarity, and all so beautiful, that it is difficult to select for quotation. For instance, in Macbeth :—

“ Canst thou not minister to a mind diseased,  
Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow,  
Raze out the written troubles of the brain,  
And, with some sweet oblivious antidote,  
Cleanse the foul bosom of that perilous stuff,  
Which weighs upon the heart ? ”

15

Here a simple idea, by a process which belongs to the 20 orator rather than to the poet, but still comes from the native vigour of genius, is expanded into a many-membered period.

The following from Hamlet is of the same kind :—

“ 'Tis not alone my inky cloak, good mother,  
Nor customary suits of solemn black,  
Nor windy suspiration of forced breath,  
No, nor the fruitful river in the eye,  
Nor the dejected haviour of the visage,  
Together with all forms, modes, shows of grief,  
That can denote me truly.”

25

30

Now, if such declamation, for declamation it is, however noble, be allowable in a poet, whose genius is so far removed from pompousness or pretence, much more is it allowable in an orator, whose very province it is to put forth words to the best advantage he can. Cicero has nothing more redundant 35

in any part of his writings than these passages from Shakespeare. No lover then at least of Shakespeare may fairly accuse Cicero of gorgeousness of phraseology or diffuseness of style. Nor will any sound critic be tempted to do so. As a certain unaffected neatness and propriety and grace of 5 diction may be required of any author who lays claim to be a classic, for the same reason that a certain attention to dress is expected of every gentleman, so to Cicero may be allowed the privilege of the “*os magna sonaturum*,” of which the ancient critic speaks. His copious, majestic, musical flow of 10 language, even if sometimes beyond what the subject-matter demands, is never out of keeping with the occasion or with the speaker. It is the expression of lofty sentiments in lofty sentences, the “*mens magna in corpore magno*.” It is the development of the inner man. Cicero vividly realised the 15 *status* of a Roman senator and statesman, and the “pride of place” of Rome, in all the grace and grandeur which attached to her; and he imbibed, and became, what he admired. As the exploits of Scipio or Pompey are the expression of this greatness in deed, so the language of Cicero is the expression 20 of it in word. And, as the acts of the Roman ruler or soldier represent to us, in a manner special to themselves, the characteristic magnanimity of the lords of the earth, so do the speeches or treatises of her accomplished orator bring it home to our imaginations as no other writing could do. Neither 25 Livy, nor Tacitus, nor Terence, nor Seneca, nor Pliny, nor Quintilian, is an adequate spokesman for the Imperial City. They write Latin; Cicero writes Roman.

## 6.

You will say that Cicero's language is undeniably studied, but that Shakespeare's is as undeniably natural and spontaneous; and that this is what is meant, when the Classics are accused of being mere artists of words. Here we are introduced to a further large question, which gives me the

opportunity of anticipating a misapprehension of my meaning. I observe, then, that, not only is that lavish richness of style, which I have noticed in Shakespeare, justifiable on the principles which I have been laying down, but, what is less easy to receive, even elaborateness in composition is no mark 5 of trick or artifice in an author. Undoubtedly the works of the Classics, particularly the Latin, *are* elaborate; they have cost a great deal of time, care, and trouble. They have had many rough copies; I grant it. I grant also that there are writers of name, ancient and modern, who really are guilty of 10 the absurdity of making sentences, as the very end of their literary labour. Such was Isocrates; such were some of the sophists; they were set on words, to the neglect of thoughts or things; I cannot defend them. If I must give an English instance of this fault, much as I love and revere the personal 15 character and intellectual vigour of Dr. Johnson, I cannot deny that his style often outruns the sense and the occasion, and is wanting in that simplicity which is the attribute of genius. Still, granting all this, I cannot grant, notwithstanding, that genius never need take pains,—that genius may not 20 improve by practice,—that it never incurs failures, and succeeds the second time,—that it never finishes off at leisure what it has thrown off in the outline at a stroke.

Take the instance of the painter or the sculptor; he has a conception in his mind which he wishes to represent in the 25 medium of his art;—the Madonna and Child, or Innocence, or Fortitude, or some historical character or event. Do you mean to say he does not study his subject? does he not make sketches? does he not even call them “studies”? does he not call his workroom a *studio*? is he not ever designing, 30 rejecting, adopting, correcting, perfecting? Are not the first attempts of Michael Angelo and Raffaelle extant, in the case of some of their most celebrated compositions? Will any one say that the Apollo Belvidere is not a conception patiently elaborated into its proper perfection? These departments of taste 35

are, according to the received notions of the world, the very province of genius, and yet we call them *arts*; they are the "Fine Arts." Why may not that be true of literary composition which is true of painting, sculpture, architecture, and music? Why may not language be wrought as well as the 5 clay of the modeller? why may not words be worked up as well as colours? why should not skill in diction be simply subservient and instrumental to the great prototypal ideas which are the contemplation of a Plato or a Virgil? Our greatest poet tells us,

10

"The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,  
Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven,  
And, as imagination bodies forth  
The form of things unknown, the poet's pen  
Turns them to shapes, and gives to airy nothing  
A local habitation and a name." 15

Now, is it wonderful that that pen of his should sometimes be at fault for a while,—that it should pause, write, erase, re-write, amend, complete, before he satisfies himself that his language has done justice to the conceptions which his mind's 20 eye contemplated?

In this point of view, doubtless, many or most writers are elaborate; and those certainly not the least whose style is furthest removed from ornament, being simple and natural, or vehement, or severely business-like and practical. Who 25 so energetic and manly as Demosthenes? Yet he is said to have transcribed Thucydides many times over in the formation of his style. Who so gracefully natural as Herodotus? yet his very dialect is not his own, but chosen for the sake of the perfection of his narrative. Who exhibits such happy 30 negligence as our own Addison? yet artistic fastidiousness was so notorious in his instance that the report has got abroad, truly or not, that he was too late in his issue of an important state-paper, from his habit of revision and re-composition. Such great authors were working by a model 35

which was before the eyes of their intellect, and they were labouring to say what they had to say, in such a way as would most exactly and suitably express it. It is not wonderful that other authors, whose style is not simple, should be instances of a similar literary diligence. Virgil wished his 5 Æneid to be burned, elaborate as is its composition, because he felt it needed more labour still, in order to make it perfect. The historian Gibbon in the last century is another instance in point. You must not suppose I am going to recommend his style for imitation, any more than his principles ; but I refer to him as the example of a writer feeling the task which lay before him, feeling that he had to bring out into words for the comprehension of his readers a great and complicated scene, and wishing that those words should be adequate to his undertaking. I think he wrote the first 15 chapter of his History three times over ; it was not that he corrected or improved the first copy ; but he put his first essay, and then his second, aside—he recast his matter, till, he had hit the precise exhibition of it which he thought demanded by his subject. 20

Now in all these instances, I wish you to observe, that what I have admitted about literary workmanship differs from the doctrine which I am opposing in this,—that the mere dealer in words cares little or nothing for the subject which he is embellishing, but can paint and gild anything whatever 25 to order ; whereas the artist, whom I am acknowledging, has his great or rich visions before him, and his only aim is to bring out what he thinks or what he feels in a way adequate to the thing spoken of, and appropriate to the speaker.

## 7.

The illustration which I have been borrowing from the 30 Fine Arts will enable me to go a step further. I have been showing the connection of the thought with the language in literary composition ; and in doing so I have exposed the

unphilosophical notion, that the language was an extra which could be dispensed with, and provided to order according to the demand. But I have not yet brought out, what immediately follows from this, and which was the second point which I had to show, viz., that to be capable of easy translation is 5 no test of the excellence of a composition. If I must say what I think, I should lay down, with little hesitation, that the truth was almost the reverse of this doctrine. Nor are many words required to show it. Such a doctrine, as is contained in the passage of the author whom I quoted when I 10 began, goes upon the assumption that one language is just like another language,—that every language has all the ideas, turns of thought, delicacies of expression, figures, associations, abstractions, points of view, which every other language has. Now, as far as regards Science, it is true that all languages 15 are pretty much alike for the purposes of Science; but even in this respect some are more suitable than others, which have to coin words, or to borrow them, in order to express scientific ideas. But if languages are not all equally adapted even to furnish symbols for those universal and eternal truths 20 in which Science consists, how can they reasonably be expected to be all equally rich, equally forcible, equally musical, equally exact, equally happy in expressing the idiosyncratic peculiarities of thought of some original and fertile mind, who has availed himself of one of them? A great author takes his 25 native language, masters it, partly throws himself into it, partly moulds and adapts it, and pours out his multitude of ideas through the variously ramified and delicately minute channels of expression which he has found or framed:—does it follow that this his personal presence (as it may be called) 30 can forthwith be transferred to every other language under the sun? Then may we reasonably maintain that Beethoven's *piano* music is not really beautiful, because it cannot be played on the hurdy-gurdy. Were not this astonishing doctrine maintained by persons far superior to the writer whom 35

I have selected for animadversion, I should find it difficult to be patient under a gratuitous extravagance. It seems that a really great author must admit of translation, and that we have a test of his excellence when he reads to advantage in a foreign language as well as in his own. Then Shakespeare is 5 a genius because he can be translated into German, and *not* a genius because he cannot be translated into French. Then the multiplication-table is the most gifted of all conceivable compositions, because it loses nothing by translation, and can hardly be said to belong to any one language whatever.<sup>10</sup> Whereas I should rather have conceived that, in proportion as ideas are novel and recondite, they would be difficult to put into words, and that the very fact of their having insinuated themselves into one language would diminish the chance of that happy accident being repeated in another. In 15 the language of savages you can hardly express any idea or act of the intellect at all : is the tongue of the Hottentot or Esquimaux to be made the measure of the genius of Plato, Pindar, Tacitus, St. Jerome, Dante, or Cervantes ?

Let us recur, I say, to the illustration of the Fine Arts. I 20 suppose you can express ideas in painting which you cannot express in sculpture ; and the more an artist is of a painter, the less he is likely to be of a sculptor. The more he commits his genius to the methods and conditions of his own art, the less he will be able to throw himself into the circumstances 25 of another. Is the genius of Fra Angelico, of Francia, or of Raffaelle disparaged by the fact that he was able to do that in colours which no man that ever lived, which no Angel, could achieve in wood ? Each of the Fine Arts has its own subject-matter ; from the nature of the case you can do in 30 one what you cannot do in another ; you can do in painting what you cannot do in carving ; you can do in oils what you cannot do in fresco ; you can do in marble what you cannot do in ivory ; you can do in wax what you cannot do in bronze. Then, I repeat, applying this to the case of lan- 35

guages, why should not genius be able to do in Greek what it cannot do in Latin? and why are its Greek and Latin works defective because they will not turn into English? That genius, of which we are speaking, did not make English; it did not make all languages, present, past, and future; it did not make the laws of *any* language: why is it to be judged of by that in which it had no part, over which it has no control? 5

## 8.

And now we are naturally brought on to our third point, which is on the characteristics of Holy Scripture as compared with profane literature. Hitherto we have been concerned with the doctrine of these writers, viz., that style is an *extra*, that it is a mere artifice, and that hence it cannot be translated; now we come to their fact, viz., that Scripture has no such artificial style, and that Scripture can easily be 15 translated. Surely their fact is as untenable as their doctrine.

Scripture easy of translation! then why have there been so few good translators? why is it that there has been such great difficulty in combining the two necessary qualities, fidelity to the original and purity in the adopted vernacular? 20 why is it that the authorized versions of the Church are often so inferior to the original as compositions, except that the Church is bound above all things to see that the version is doctrinally correct, and in a difficult problem is obliged to put up with defects in what is of secondary importance, provided she secure what is of first? If it were so easy to transfer the beauty of the original to the copy, she would not have been content with her received version in various languages which could be named.

And then in the next place, Scripture not elaborate! 30 Scripture not ornamented in diction, and musical in cadence! Why, consider the Epistle to the Hebrews—where is there in the classics any composition more carefully, more artificially

written? Consider the book of Job—is it not a sacred drama, as artistic, as perfect, as any Greek tragedy of Sophocles or Euripides? Consider the Psalter—are there no ornaments, no rhythm, no studied cadences, no responsive members, in that divinely beautiful book? And is it not hard to understand? are not the Prophets hard to understand? is not St. Paul hard to understand? Who can say that these are popular compositions? who can say that they are level at first reading with the understandings of the multitude?

That there are portions indeed of the inspired volume more simple both in style and in meaning, and that these are the more sacred and sublime passages, as, for instance, parts of the Gospels, I grant at once; but this does not militate against the doctrine I have been laying down. Recollect, Gentlemen, my distinction when I began. I have said Literature is one thing, and that Science is another; that Literature has to do with ideas, and Science with realities; that Literature is of a personal character, that Science treats of what is universal and eternal. In proportion, then, as Scripture excludes the personal colouring of its writers, and rises into the region of pure and mere inspiration, when it ceases in any sense to be the writing of man, of St. Paul or St. John, of Moses or Isaias, then it comes to belong to Science, not Literature. Then it conveys the things of heaven, unseen verities, divine manifestations, and them alone—not the ideas, the feelings, the aspirations, of its human instruments, who, for all that they were inspired and infallible, did not cease to be men. St. Paul's epistles, then, I consider to be literature in a real and true sense, as personal, as rich in reflection and emotion, as Demosthenes or Euripides; and, without ceasing to be revelations of objective truth, they are expressions of the subjective notwithstanding. On the other hand, portions of the Gospels, of the book of Genesis, and other passages of the Sacred Volume, are of the nature of Science. Such is the beginning of St. John's

Gospel, which we read at the end of Mass. Such is the Creed. I mean, passages such as these are the mere enunciation of eternal things, without (so to say) the medium of any human mind transmitting them to us. The words used have the grandeur, the majesty, the calm, unimpassioned 5 beauty of Science; they are in no sense Literature, they are in no sense personal; and therefore they are easy to apprehend, and easy to translate.

Did time admit I could show you parallel instances of what I am speaking of in the Classics, inferior to the inspired 10 word in proportion as the subject-matter of the classical authors is immensely inferior to the subjects treated of in Scripture—but parallel, inasmuch as the classical author or speaker ceases for the moment to have to do with Literature, as speaking of things objectively, and rises to the serene 15 sublimity of Science. But I should be carried too far if I began.

## 9.

I shall then merely sum up what I have said, and come to a conclusion. Reverting, then, to my original question, what is the meaning of Letters, as contained, Gentlemen, in 20 the designation of your Faculty, I have answered, that by Letters or Literature is meant the expression of thought in language, where by "thought" I mean the ideas, feelings, views, reasonings, and other operations of the human mind. And the Art of Letters is the method by which a speaker or 25 writer brings out in words, worthy of his subject, and sufficient for his audience or readers, the thoughts which impress him. Literature, then, is of a personal character; it consists in the enunciations and teachings of those who have a right to speak as representatives of their kind, and in whose words 30 their brethren find an interpretation of their own sentiments, a record of their own experience, and a suggestion for their own judgments. A great author, Gentlemen, is not one who

merely has a *copia verborum*, whether in prose or verse, and can, as it were, turn on at his will any number of splendid phrases and swelling sentences ; but he is one who has something to say and knows how to say it. I do not claim for him, as such, any great depth of thought, or breadth of view, 5 or philosophy, or sagacity, or knowledge of human nature, or experience of human life, though these additional gifts he may have, and the more he has of them the greater he is ; but I ascribe to him, as his characteristic gift, in a large sense the faculty of Expression. He is master of the two-fold Logos, 10 the thought and the word, distinct, but inseparable from each other. He may, if so be, elaborate his compositions, or he may pour out his improvisations, but in either case he has but one aim, which he keeps steadily before him, and is conscientious and single-minded in fulfilling. That aim is 15 to give forth what he has within him ; and from his very earnestness it comes to pass that, whatever be the splendour of his diction or the harmony of his periods, he has with him the charm of an incommunicable simplicity. Whatever be his subject, high or low, he treats it suitably and for its own 20 sake. If he is a poet, "nil molitur *ineptè*." If he is an orator, then too he speaks, not only "*distinctè*" and "*splendiè*," but also "*aptè*." His page is the lucid mirror of his mind and life—

“Quo fit, ut omnis  
Votivâ pateat veluti descripta tabellâ  
Vita senis.”

25

He writes passionately, because he feels keenly ; forcibly, because he conceives vividly ; he sees too clearly to be vague ; he is too serious to be otiose ; he can analyze his subject, and 30 therefore he is rich ; he embraces it as a whole and in its parts, and therefore he is consistent ; he has a firm hold of it, and therefore he is luminous. When his imagination wells up, it overflows in ornament ; when his heart is touched,

it thrills along his verse. He always has the right word for the right idea, and never a word too much. If he is brief, it is because few words suffice ; when he is lavish of them, still each word has its mark, and aids, not embarrasses, the vigorous march of his elocution. He expresses what all feel, 5 but all cannot say ; and his sayings pass into proverbs among his people, and his phrases become household words and idioms of their daily speech, which is tesselated with the rich fragments of his language, as we see in foreign lands the marbles of Roman grandeur worked into the walls and pave-10 ments of modern palaces.

Such pre-eminently is Shakespeare among ourselves ; such pre-eminently Virgil among the Latins ; such in their degree are all those writers who in every nation go by the name of Classics. To particular nations they are necessarily attached 15 from the circumstance of the variety of tongues, and the peculiarities of each ; but so far they have a catholic and ecumenical character, that what they express is common to the whole race of man, and they alone are able to express it.

## 10.

If then the power of speech is a gift as great as any that 20 can be named,—if the origin of language is by many philosophers even considered to be nothing short of divine,—if by means of words the secrets of the heart are brought to light, pain of soul is relieved, hidden grief is carried off, sympathy conveyed, counsel imparted, experience recorded, 25 and wisdom perpetuated,—if by great authors the many are drawn up into unity, national character is fixed, a people speaks, the past and the future, the East and the West are brought into communication with each other,—if such men are, in a word, the spokesmen and prophets of the human 30 family,—it will not answer to make light of Literature or to neglect its study ; rather we may be sure that, in proportion as we master it in whatever language, and imbibe its spirit,

we shall ourselves become in our own measure the ministers of like benefits to others, be they many or few, be they in the obscurer or the more distinguished walks of life,—who are united to us by social ties, and are within the sphere of our personal influence.

## POETRY.

POETRY, according to Aristotle, is a representation of the ideal. Biography and history represent individual characters and actual facts; poetry, on the contrary, generalizing from the phenomenon of nature and life, supplies us with pictures drawn, not after an existing pattern, but after a creation of 5 the mind. Fidelity is the primary merit of biography and history; the essence of poetry is fiction. "Poesis nihil aliud est," says Bacon, "quam historiæ imitatio ad placitum." It delineates that perfection which the imagination suggests, and to which as a limit the present system of Divine Provi- 10 dence actually tends. Moreover, by confining the attention to one series of events and scene of action, it bounds and finishes off the confused luxuriance of real nature; while, by a skilful adjustment of circumstances, it brings into sight the connexion of cause and effect, completes the dependence of 15 the parts one on another, and harmonizes the proportions of the whole. It is then but the type and model of history or biography, if we may be allowed the comparison, bearing some resemblance to the abstract mathematical formulæ of physics, before they are modified by the contingencies of 20 atmosphere and friction. Hence, while it recreates the imagination by the superhuman loveliness of its views, it provides a solace for the mind broken by the disappointments and sufferings of actual life; and becomes, moreover, the utterance of the inward emotions of a right moral feeling, 25 seeking a purity and a truth which this world will not give.

It follows that the poetical mind is one full of the eternal

forms of beauty and perfection ; these are its material of thought, its instrument and medium of observation,—these colour each object to which it directs its view. It is called imaginative or creative, from the originality and independence of its modes of thinking, compared with the commonplace 5 and matter-of-fact conceptions of ordinary minds, which are fettered down to the particular and individual. At the same time it feels a natural sympathy with everything great and splendid in the physical and moral world ; and selecting such from the mass of common phenomena, incorporates them, 10 as it were, into the substance of its own creations. From living thus in a world of its own, it speaks the language of dignity, emotion, and refinement. Figure is its necessary medium of communication with man ; for in the feebleness of ordinary words to express its ideas, and in the absence of 15 terms of abstract perfection, the adoption of metaphorical language is the only poor means allowed it for imparting to others its intense feelings. A metrical garb has, in all languages, been appropriated to poetry—it is but the outward development of the music and harmony within. The verse, 20 far from being a restraint on the true poet, is the suitable index of his sense, and is adopted by his free and deliberate choice. We shall presently show the applicability of our doctrine to the various departments of poetical composition ; first, however, it will be right to volunteer an explanation 25 which may save it from much misconception and objection. Let not our notion be thought arbitrarily to limit the number of poets, generally considered such. It will be found to lower particular works, or parts of works, rather than the authors themselves ; sometimes to disparage only the vehicle in which 30 the poetry is conveyed. There is an ambiguity in the word “poetry,” which is taken to signify both the gift itself, and the written composition which is the result of it. Thus there is an apparent, but no real contradiction, in saying a poem may be but partially poetical ; in some passages more so than 35

in others; and sometimes not poetical at all. We only maintain, not that the writers forfeit the name of poet who fail at times to answer to our requisitions, but that they are poets only so far forth, and inasmuch as they do answer to them. We may grant, for instance, that the vulgarities of old Phœnix in the ninth Iliad, or of the nurse of Orestes in the Choephorœ, are in themselves unworthy of their respective authors, and refer them to the wantonness of exuberant genius; and yet maintain that the scenes in question contain much incidental poetry. Now and then the lustre of the true metal 10 catches the eye, redeeming whatever is unseemly and worthless in the rude ore; still the ore is not the metal. Nay, sometimes, and not unfrequently in Shakespeare, the introduction of unpoetical matter may be necessary for the sake of relief, or as a vivid expression of recondite conceptions, and, 15 as it were, to make friends with the reader's imagination. This necessity, however, cannot make the additions in themselves beautiful and pleasing. Sometimes, on the other hand, while we do not deny the incidental beauty of a poem, we are ashamed and indignant on witnessing the unworthy sub-20 stance in which that beauty is imbedded. This remark applies strongly to the immoral compositions to which Lord Byron devoted his last years.

Now to proceed with our proposed investigation.

1. We will notice *descriptive poetry* first. Empedocles 25 wrote his physics in verse, and Oppian his history of animals. Neither were poets—the one was an historian of nature, the other a sort of biographer of brutes. Yet a poet may make natural history or philosophy the material of his composition. But under his hands they are no longer a bare collection of 30 facts or principles, but are painted with a meaning, beauty, and harmonious order not their own. Thomson has sometimes been commended for the novelty and minuteness of his remarks upon nature. This is not the praise of a poet; whose office rather is to represent known phenomena in a 35

new connection or medium. In L'Allegro and Il Penseroſo the poetical magician invests the commonest scenes of a country life with the hues, first of a cheerful, then of a pensive imagination. It is the charm of the descriptive poetry of a religious mind, that nature is viewed in a moral connexion. Ordinary writers, for instance, compare aged men to trees in autumn—a gifted poet will in the fading trees discern the fading men.<sup>1</sup> Pastoral poetry is a description of rustics, agriculture, and cattle, softened off and corrected from the rude health of nature. Virgil, and much more <sup>10</sup> Pope and others, have run into the fault of colouring too highly; instead of drawing generalized and ideal forms of shepherds, they have given us pictures of gentlemen and beaux.

Their composition may be poetry, but it is not pastoral <sup>15</sup> poetry.

2. The difference between poetical and historical *narrative* may be illustrated by the Tales Founded on Facts, generally of a religious character, so common in the present day, which we must not be thought to approve, because we <sup>20</sup> use them for our purpose. The author finds in the circumstances of the case many particulars too trivial for public notice, or irrelevant to the main story, or partaking perhaps too much of the peculiarity of individual minds: these he omits. He finds connected events separated from each other <sup>25</sup> by time or place, or a course of action distributed among a multitude of agents; he limits the scene or duration of the tale, and dispenses with his host of characters by condensing the mass of incident and action in the history of a few. He compresses long controversies into a concise argument, and <sup>30</sup>

Thus :—

“ How quiet shows the woodland scene !  
Each flower and tree, its duty done,  
Reposing in decay serene,  
Like weary men when age is won,” etc.

exhibits characters by dialogue, and (if such be his object) brings prominently forward the course of Divine Providence by a fit disposition of his materials. Thus he selects, combines, refines, colours,—in fact, poetizes. His facts are no longer actual, but ideal; a tale founded on facts is a tale 5 generalized from facts. The authors of Peveril of the Peak, and of Brambleye House, have given us their respective descriptions of the profligate times of Charles II. Both accounts are interesting, but for different reasons. That of the latter writer has the fidelity of history; Walter Scott's picture 10 is the hideous reality, unintentionally softened and decorated by the poetry of his own mind. Miss Edgeworth sometimes apologizes for certain incidents in her tales, by stating they took place “by one of those strange chances which occur in life, but seem incredible when found in writing”. Such an 15 excuse evinces a misconception of the principle of fiction, which, being the perfection of the actual, prohibits the introduction of any such anomalies of experience. It is by a similar impropriety that painters sometimes introduce unusual sunsets, or other singular phenomena of lights and forms. 20 Yet some of Miss Edgeworth's works contain much poetry of narrative. Manceuvring is perfect in its way,—the plot and characters are natural, without being too real to be pleasing.

3. *Character* is made poetical by a like process. The 25 writer draws indeed from experience; but unnatural peculiarities are laid aside, and harsh contrasts reconciled. If it be said, the fidelity of the imitation is often its greatest merit, we have only to reply, that in such cases the pleasure is not poetical, but consists in the mere recognition. All novels and 30 tales which introduce real characters, are in the same degree impoetical. Portrait-painting, to be poetical, should furnish an abstract representation of an individual; the abstraction being more rigid, inasmuch as the painting is confined to one point of time. The artist should draw independently of the 35

accidents of attitude, dress, occasional feeling, and transient action. He should depict the general spirit of his subject—as if he were copying from memory, not from a few particular sittings. An ordinary painter will delineate with rigid fidelity, and will make a caricature; but the learned artist contrives 5 so to temper his composition, as to sink all offensive peculiarities and hardnesses of individuality, without diminishing the striking effect of the likeness, or acquainting the casual spectator with the secret of his art. Miss Edgeworth's representations of the Irish character are actual, and not poetical<sup>10</sup>—nor were they intended to be so. They are interesting, because they are faithful. If there is poetry about them, it exists in the personages themselves, not in her representation of them. She is only the accurate reporter in word of what was poetical in fact. Hence, moreover, when a deed or in-15 cident is striking in itself, a judicious writer is led to describe it in the most simple and colourless terms, his own being unnecessary; for instance, if the greatness of the action itself excites the imagination, or the depth of the suffering interests the feelings. In the usual phrase, the circumstances are left 20 “to speak for themselves.”

Let it not be said that our doctrine is adverse to that individuality in the delineation of character, which is a principal charm of fiction. It is not necessary for the ideality of a composition to avoid those minuter shades of difference be-25 tween man and man, which give to poetry its plausibility and life; but merely such violation of general nature, such improbabilities, wanderings, or coarsenesses, as interfere with the refined and delicate enjoyment of the imagination; which would have the elements of beauty extracted out of the con-30 fused multitude of ordinary actions and habits, and combined with consistency and ease. Nor does it exclude the introduction of imperfect or odious characters. The original conception of a weak or guilty mind may have its intrinsic beauty; and much more so, when it is connected with a tale 35

which finally adjusts whatever is reprehensible in the personages themselves. Richard and Iago are subservient to the plot. Moral excellence in some characters may become even a fault. The Clytemnestra of Euripides is so interesting, that the divine vengeance, which is the main subject of the 5 drama, seems almost unjust. Lady Macbeth, on the contrary, is the conception of one deeply learned in the poetical art. She is polluted with the most heinous crimes, and meets the fate she deserves. Yet there is nothing in the picture to offend the taste, and much to feed the imagination. Romeo 10 and Juliet are too good for the termination to which the plot leads; so are Ophelia and the Bride of Lammermoor. In these cases there is something inconsistent with correct beauty, and therefore unpoetical. We do not say the fault could be avoided without sacrificing more than would be 15 gained; still it is a fault. It is scarcely possible for a poet satisfactorily to connect innocence with ultimate unhappiness, when the notion of a future life is excluded. Honours paid to the memory of the dead are some alleviation of the harshness. In his use of the doctrine of a future life, Southey is 20 admirable. Other writers are content to conduct their heroes to temporal happiness;—Southey refuses present comfort to his Ladurlad, Thalaba, and Roderick, but carries them on through suffering to another world. The death of his hero is the termination of the action; yet so little, in two of them, at 25 least, does this catastrophe excite sorrowful feelings, that some readers may be startled to be reminded of the fact. If a melancholy is thrown over the conclusion of the Roderick, it is from the peculiarities of the hero's previous history.

4. Opinions, feelings, manners, and customs, are made 30 poetical by the delicacy or splendour with which they are expressed. This is seen in the *ode*, *elegy*, *sonnet*, and *ballad*; in which a single idea, perhaps, or familiar occurrence, is invested by the poet with pathos or dignity. The ballad of Old Robin Gray will serve for an instance, out of a multi- 35

tude; again, Lord Byron's Hebrew Melody, beginning, "Were my bosom as false," etc.; or Cowper's Lines on his Mother's Picture; or Milman's Funeral Hymn in the Martyr of Antioch; or Milton's Sonnet on his Blindness; or Bernard Barton's Dream. As picturesque specimens, we may name 5 Campbell's Battle of the Baltic; or Joanna Baillie's Chough and Crow; and for the more exalted and splendid style, Gray's Bard; or Milton's Hymn on the Nativity; in which facts, with which every one is familiar, are made new by the colouring of a poetical imagination. It must all along be 10 observed, that we are not adducing instances for their own sake; but in order to illustrate our general doctrine, and to show its applicability to those compositions which are, by universal consent, acknowledged to be poetical.

The department of poetry we are now speaking of is of 15 much wider extent than might at first sight appear. It will include such moralizing and philosophical poems as Young's Night Thoughts, and Byron's Childe Harold. There is much bad taste, at present, in the judgment passed on compositions of this kind. It is the fault of the day to mistake mere eloquence 20 for poetry; whereas, in direct opposition to the conciseness and simplicity of the poet, the talent of the orator consists in making much of a single idea. "Sic dicet ille ut verset sœpe multis modis eandem et unam rem, ut hæreat in eâdem commoreturque sententia." This is the great art of Cicero him- 25 self, who, whether he is engaged in statement, argument, or raillery, never ceases till he has exhausted the subject; going round about it, and placing it in every different light, yet without repetition to offend or weary the reader. This faculty seems to consist in the power of throwing off harmonious 30 verses, which, while they have a respectable portion of meaning, yet are especially intended to charm the ear. In popular poems, common ideas are unfolded with copiousness, and set off in polished verse—and this is called poetry. Such is the character of Campbell's Pleasures of Hope; it is in his minor 35

poems that the author's poetical genius rises to its natural elevation. In Childe Harold, too, the writer is carried through his Spenserian stanza with the unweariness and equable fulness of accomplished eloquence; opening, illustrating, and heightening one idea, before he passes on to another. His composition is an extended funeral sermon over buried joys and pleasures. His laments over Greece, Rome, and the fallen in various engagements, have quite the character of panegyrical orations; while by the very attempt to describe the celebrated buildings and sculptures of antiquity, he seems to confess that *they* are the poetical text, his the rhetorical comment. Still it is a work of splendid talent, though, as a whole, not of the highest poetical excellence. Juvenal is perhaps the only ancient author who habitually substitutes declamation for poetry. 15

5. The *philosophy of mind* may equally be made subservient to poetry, as the philosophy of nature. It is a common fault to mistake a mere knowledge of the heart for poetical talent. Our greatest masters have known better;—they have subjected metaphysics to their art. In Hamlet, Macbeth, Richard, and Othello, the philosophy of mind is but the material of the poet. These personages are ideal; they are effects of the contact of a given internal character with given outward circumstances, the results of combined conditions determining (so to say) a moral curve of original and inimitable properties. 25 Philosophy is exhibited in the same subserviency to poetry in many parts of Crabbe's Tales of the Hall. In the writings of this author there is much to offend a refined taste; but, at least in the work in question, there is much of a highly poetical cast. It is a representation of the action and reaction of two minds upon each other and upon the world around them. Two brothers of different characters and fortunes, and strangers to each other, meet. Their habits of mind, the formation of those habits by external circumstances, their respective media of judgment, their points of mutual attraction 35

and repulsion, the mental position of each in relation to a variety of trifling phenomena of every-day nature and life, are beautifully developed in a series of tales moulded into a connected narrative. We are tempted to single out the fourth book, which gives an account of the childhood and education 5 of the younger brother, and which for variety of thought as well as fidelity of description is in our judgment beyond praise. The Waverley Novels would afford us specimens of a similar excellence. One striking peculiarity of these tales is the author's practice of describing a group of characters bearing 10 the same general features of mind, and placed in the same general circumstances ; yet so contrasted with each other in minute differences of mental constitution, that each diverges from the common starting-point into a path peculiar to himself. The brotherhood of villains in Kenilworth, of knights in Ivan- 15 hoe, and of enthusiasts in Old Mortality, are instances of this. This bearing of character and plot on each other is not often found in Byron's poems. The Corsair is intended for a remarkable personage. We pass by the inconsistencies of his character, considered by itself. The grand fault is, that 20 whether it be natural or not, we are obliged to accept the author's word for the fidelity of his portrait. We are told, not shown, what the hero was. There is nothing in the plot which results from his peculiar formation of mind. An every-day bravo might equally well have satisfied the require- 25 ments of the action. Childe Harold, again, if he is anything, is a being professedly isolated from the world, and uninfluenced by it. One might as well draw Tityrus's stags grazing in the air, as a character of this kind ; which yet, with more or less alteration, passes through successive editions in his other poems. 30 Byron had very little versatility or elasticity of genius ; he did not know how to make poetry out of existing materials. He declaims in his own way, and has the upperhand as long as he is allowed to go on ; but, if interrogated on principles of nature and good sense, he is at once put out and brought to a stand. 35

Yet his conception of Sardanapalus and Myrrha is fine and ideal, and in the style of excellence which we have just been admiring in Shakespeare and Scott.

These illustrations of Aristotle's doctrine may suffice.

Now let us proceed to a fresh position ; which, as before, shall first be broadly stated, then modified and explained. How does originality differ from the poetical talent ? Without affecting the accuracy of a definition, we may call the latter the originality of right moral feeling.

Originality may perhaps be defined the power of abstracting for one's self, and is in thought what strength of mind is in action. Our opinions are commonly derived from education and society. Common minds transmit as they receive, good and bad, true and false ; minds of original talent feel a continual propensity to investigate subjects, and strike out views for themselves ;—so that even old and established truths do not escape modification and accidental change when subjected to this process of mental digestion. Even the style of original writers is stamped with the peculiarities of their minds. When originality is found apart from good sense, which more or less is frequently the case, it shows itself in paradox and rashness of sentiment, and eccentricity of outward conduct. Poetry, on the other hand, cannot be separated from its good sense, or taste, as it is called ; which is one of its elements. It is originality energizing in the world of beauty ; the originality of grace, purity, refinement, and good feeling. We do not hesitate to say, that poetry is ultimately founded on correct moral perception ; that where there is no sound principle in exercise there will be no poetry ; and that on the whole (originality being granted) in proportion to the standard of a writer's moral character will his compositions vary in poetical excellence. This position, however, requires some explanation.

Of course, then, we do not mean to imply that a poet must necessarily display virtuous and religious feeling ; we are not 35

speaking of the actual material of poetry, but of its sources, A right moral state of heart is the formal and scientific condition of a poetical mind. Nor does it follow from our position that every poet must in fact be a man of consistent and practical principle; except so far as good feeling commonly produces or results from good practice. Burns was a man of inconsistent life; still, it is known, of much really sound principle at bottom. Thus his acknowledged poetical talent is in nowise inconsistent with the truth of our doctrine, which will refer the beauty which exists in his compositions 19 to the remains of a virtuous and diviner nature within him. Nay, further than this, our theory holds good, even though it be shown that a depraved man may write a poem. As motives short of the purest lead to actions intrinsically good, so frames of mind short of virtuous will produce a partial 15 and limited poetry. But even where this is instanced, the poetry of a vicious mind will be inconsistent and debased; that is, so far only poetry as the traces and shadows of holy truth still remain upon it. On the other hand, a right moral feeling places the mind in the very centre of that circle from 20 which all the rays have their origin and range; whereas minds otherwise placed command but a portion of the whole circuit of poetry. Allowing for human infirmity and the varieties of opinion, Milton, Spenser, Cowper, Wordsworth, and Southey, may be considered, as far as their writings go, 25 to approximate to this moral centre. The following are added as further illustrations of our meaning. Walter Scott's centre is chivalrous honour; Shakespeare exhibits the characteristics of an unlearned and undisciplined piety; Homer the religion of nature and conscience, at times debased by polytheism. 30 All these poets are religious. The occasional irreligion of Virgil's poetry is painful to the admirers of his general taste and delicacy. Dryden's Alexander's Feast is a magnificent composition, and has high poetical beauties; but to a refined judgment there is something intrinsically unpoetical in the 35

end to which it is devoted, the praises of revel and sensuality. It corresponds to a process of clever reasoning erected on an untrue foundation—the one is a fallacy, the other is out of taste. Lord Byron's *Manfred* is in parts intensely poetical; yet the delicate mind naturally shrinks from the spirit which here and there reveals itself, and the basis on which the drama is built. From a perusal of it we should infer, according to the above theory, that there was right and fine feeling in the poet's mind, but that the central and consistent character was wanting. From the history of his life we know<sup>16</sup> this to be the fact. The connexion between want of the religious principle and want of poetical feeling, is seen in the instances of Hume and Gibbon, who had radically unpoetical minds. Rousseau, it may be supposed, is an exception to our doctrine. Lucretius, too, had great poetical genius; but<sup>17</sup> his work evinces that his miserable philosophy was rather the result of a bewildered judgment than a corrupt heart.

According to the above theory, Revealed Religion should be especially poetical—and it is so in fact. While its disclosures have an originality in them to engage the intellect,<sup>20</sup> they have a beauty to satisfy the moral nature. It presents us with those ideal forms of excellence in which a poetical mind delights, and with which all grace and harmony are associated. It brings us into a new world,—a world of overpowering interest, of the sublimest views, and the tenderest<sup>21</sup> and purest feelings. The peculiar grace of mind of the New Testament writers is as striking as the actual effect produced upon the hearts of those who have imbibed their spirit. At present we are not concerned with the practical, but the poetical nature of revealed truth. With Christians, a poetical<sup>30</sup> view of things is a duty,—we are bid to colour all things with hues of faith, to see a Divine meaning in every event, and a superhuman tendency. Even our friends around are invested with unearthly brightness—no longer imperfect men, but beings taken into Divine favour, stamped with His seal,<sup>35</sup>

and in training for future happiness. It may be added, that the virtues peculiarly Christian are especially poetical—meekness, gentleness, compassion, contentment, modesty, not to mention the devotional virtues; whereas the ruder and more ordinary feelings are the instruments of rhetoric more justly 5 than of poetry—anger, indignation, emulation, martial spirit, and love of independence.

A few remarks on poetical composition, and we have done. The art of composition is merely accessory to the poetical talent. But where that talent exists, it necessarily gives its 10 own character to the style, and renders it perfectly different from all others. As the poet's habits of mind lead to contemplation rather than to communication with others, he is more or less obscure, according to the particular style of poetry he has adopted; less so in epic, or narrative and 15 dramatic representation,—more so in odes and choruses. He will be obscure, moreover, from the depths of his feelings, which require a congenial reader to enter into them—and from their acuteness, which shrinks from any formal accuracy in the expression of them. And he will be obscure, not only 20 from the carelessness of genius, and from the originality of his conceptions, but it may be from natural deficiency in the power of clear and eloquent expression, which, we must repeat, is a talent distinct from poetry, though often mistaken for it.

25

However, dexterity in composition, or *eloquence* as it may be called in a contracted sense of the word, is manifestly more or less necessary in every branch of literature, though its elements may be different in each. Poetical eloquence consists, first, in the power of illustration; which the poet 30 uses, not as the orator, voluntarily, for the sake of clearness or ornament, but almost by constraint, as the sole outlet and expression of intense inward feeling. This spontaneous power of comparison may, in some poetical minds, be very feeble; these of course cannot show to advantage as poets. 35

Another talent necessary to composition is the power of unfolding the meaning in an orderly manner. A poetical mind is often too impatient to explain itself justly ; it is overpowered by a rush of emotions, which sometimes want of power, sometimes the indolence of inward enjoyment, prevents it 5 from describing. Nothing is more difficult than to analyse the feelings of our own minds ; and the power of doing so, whether natural or acquired, is clearly distinct from experiencing them. Yet, though distinct from the poetical talent, it is obviously necessary to its exhibition. Hence it is a 10 common praise bestowed upon writers, that they express what we have often felt, but could never describe. The power of arrangement, which is necessary for an extended poem, is a modification of the same talent, being to poetry what method is to logic. Besides these qualifications, poetical composition 15 requires that command of language which is the mere effect of practice. The poet is a compositor ; words are his types ; he must have them within reach, and in unlimited abundance. Hence the need of careful labour to the accomplished poet,—not in order that his diction may attract, but that the language 20 may be subjected to him. He studies the art of composition as we might learn dancing or elocution ; not that we may move or speak according to rule, but that, by the very exercise our voice and carriage may become so unembarrassed as to allow of our doing what we will with them. . . . 25

A talent for composition, then, is no essential part of poetry, though indispensable to its exhibition. Hence it would seem that attention to the language, for its own sake, evidences not the true poet, but the mere artist. Pope is said to have tuned our tongue. We certainly owe much to 30 him—his diction is rich, musical, and expressive : still he is not on this account a poet ; he elaborated his composition for its own sake. If we give him poetical praise on this account, we may as appropriately bestow it on a tasteful cabinet-maker. This does not forbid us to ascribe the grace of his 35

verse to an inward principle of poetry, which supplied him with archetypes of the beautiful and splendid to work by. But a similar gift must direct the skill of every fancy-artist who subserves the luxuries and elegances of life. On the other hand, though Virgil is celebrated as a master of composition, yet his style is so identified with his conceptions, as their outward development, as to preclude the possibility of our viewing the one apart from the other. In Milton, again, the harmony of the verse is but the echo of the inward music which the thoughts of the poet breathe. In Moore's style, the ornament continually outstrips the sense. Cowper and Walter Scott, on the other hand, are slovenly in their versification. Sophocles writes, on the whole, without studied attention to the style; but Euripides frequently affected a simplicity and prettiness which exposed him to the ridicule of the comic poets. Lastly, the style of Homer's poems is perfect in their particular department. It is free, manly, simple, perspicuous, energetic, and varied. It is the style of one who rhapsodized without deference to hearer or judge, in an age prior to the temptations which more or less prevailed over succeeding writers—before the theatre had degraded poetry into an exhibition, and criticism narrowed it into an art.

## WHO'S TO BLAME?

### (a) *CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ATHENIANS.*

Now at length I am drawing near the subject which I have undertaken to treat, though Athens is both in leagues and in centuries a great way off England after all. But first to recapitulate:—a State or polity implies two things, Power on the one hand, Liberty on the other; a Rule and a Constitution. Power, when freely developed, results in centralization ; Liberty in self-government. The two principles are in antagonism from their very nature ; so far forth as you have rule, you have not liberty ; so far forth as you have liberty, you have not rule. If a People gives up nothing at all, it remains a mere People, and does not rise to be a State. If it gives up everything, it could not be worse off, though it gave up nothing. Accordingly, it always must give up something ; it never can give up everything ; and in every case the problem to be decided is, what is the most advisable compromise, what point is the *maximum* of at once protection and independence.

Those political institutions are the best which subtract as little as possible from a people's natural independence as the price of their protection. The stronger you make the Ruler, the more he can do for you, *but* the more he also can do against you ; the weaker you make him, the less he can do against you, *but* the less also he can do for you. The Man promised to kill the Stag ; but he fairly owned that he must be first allowed to mount the Horse. Put a sword into the Ruler's hands, it is at his option to use or not use it against you ; reclaim it, and who is to use it for you ? Thus, if

States are free, they are feeble ; if they are vigorous, they are high-handed. I am not speaking of a nation or a people, but of a State as such ; and I say, the more a State secures to itself of rule and centralization, the more it can do for its subjects externally ; and the more it grants to them of liberty and self-government, the less it can do against them internally : and thus a despotic government is the best for war, and a popular government the best for peace.

Now this may seem a paradox so far as this ;—that I have said a State cannot be at once free and strong, whereas the combination of these advantages is the very boast which we make about our own island in one of our national songs, which runs,—

“ *Britannia, rule the waves !  
Britons never shall be slaves.* ”

15

I acknowledge the force of this authority ; but I must recall the reader’s attention to the distinction which I have just been making between a Nation and a State. Britons are free, considered as a State ; they are strong, considered as a Nation ;—and, as a good deal depends on this distinction, I will illustrate it, before I come to the consideration of our own country, by the instance of that ancient and famous people whose name I have prefixed to this portion of my inquiry,—a people who, in most respects, are as unlike us, as beauty is unlike utility, but who are in this respect, strange to say, not dissimilar to the Briton.

So pure a democracy was Athens, that, if any of its citizens was eminent, he might be banished by the rest for this simple offence of greatness. Self-government was developed there in the fullest measure, as if provision was not at all needed against any foe. Nor indeed in the earlier period of Athens, was it required ; for the poverty of the soil, and the extent of seaboard as its boundary, secured it against both the cupidity, and the successful enterprise of invaders. The chief object

'then, of its polity was the maintenance of internal order ; but even in this respect solicitude was superfluous, according to its citizens themselves, who were accustomed to boast that they were attracted, one and all, in one and the same way, and moulded into a body politic, by an innate perception of 5 the beautiful and true, and that the genius and cultivation of mind, which were their characteristics, served them better for the observance of the rules of good fellowship and for carrying on the intercourse of life, than the most stringent laws and the best appointed officers of police. 10

Here then was the extreme of self-government carried out ; and the State was intensely free. That in proportion to that internal freedom was its weakness in its external relations, its uncertainty, caprice, injustice, and untrustworthiness, history, I think, abundantly shows. It may be thought unfair to appeal to the age of Philip and Demosthenes, when no Greek 15 State could oppose a military organization worthy of such a foe as Macedon ; but at no anterior period had it shown a vigour and perseverance similar to the political force of the barbaric monarchy, which extinguished its liberties. It was simply 20 unable to defend and perpetuate that democratical license which it so inordinately prized.

Had Athens then no influence on the world outside of it, because its political influence was so baseless and fluctuating ? Has she gained no conquests, exercised no rule, effected no 25 changes, left no traces of herself upon the nations ? On the contrary, never was country able to do so much ; never has country so impressed its image upon the history of the world, except always that similarly small strip of land in Syria. And moreover,—for this I wish to insist upon, rather than 30 merely concede,—this influence of hers was in consequence, though not by means, of her democratical *regime*. That democratical polity formed a *People*, who could do what democracy itself could not do. Feeble all together, the Athenians were superlatively energetic one by one. It was 35

their very keenness of intellect individually which made them collectively so inefficient. This point of character, insisted on both by friendly and hostile orators in the pages of her great historian, is a feature in which Athens resembles England. Englishmen, indeed, do not go to work with the grace and poetry which, if Pericles is to be believed, characterized an Athenian ; but Athens may boast of her children as having the self-reliance, the spirit, and the unflagging industry of the individual Englishman. 5

It was this individualism which was the secret of the power of Athens in her day, and remains as the instrument of her influence now. What was her trade, or her colonies, or her literature, but private, not public achievements, the triumph, not of State policy, but of personal effort ? Rome sent out her colonies, as Russia now, with political foresight ; modern Europe has its State Universities, its Royal Academies, its periodical scientific Associations ; it was otherwise with Athens. There, great things were done by citizens working in their private capacity ; working, it must be added, not so much from patriotism as for their personal advantage ; 20 or, if with patriotism, still with little chance of State encouragement or reward. Socrates, the greatest of her moralists, and since his day one of her chief glories, lived unrecognized and unrewarded, and died under a judicial sentence. Xenophon conducted his memorable retreat across Asia Minor, not 25 as an Athenian, but as the mercenary or volunteer of a Persian Prince. Miltiades was of a family of adventurers, who by their private energy had founded a colony, and secured a lordship in the Chersonese ; and he met his death while prosecuting his private interests with his country's vessels. 30 Themistocles had a double drift, patriotic and traitorous, in the very acts by which he secured to the Greeks the victory of Salamis, having in mind that those acts should profit him at the Persian Court, if they did not turn to his account at home. Perhaps we are not so accurately informed of what 35

took place at Rome, when Hannibal threatened the city ; but certainly Rome presents us with the picture of a strong State at that crisis, whereas, in the parallel trial, the Athens of Miltiades and Themistocles shows like the clever, dashing population of a large town. 5

We have another sample of the genius of her citizens in their conduct at Pylos. Neither they, nor their officers, would obey the orders of the elder Demosthenes, who was sent out to direct the movements of the fleet. In vain did he urge them to fortify the place ; they did nothing ; till, the 10 bad weather detaining them on shore, and inaction becoming tedious, suddenly they fell upon the work with a will ; and, having neither tools nor carriages, hunted up stones where they could find them ready in the soil, made clay do the office of mortar, carried the materials on their backs, sup- 15 porting them with their clasped hands, and thus finished the necessary works in the course of a few days.

By this personal enterprise and daring the Athenians were distinguished from the rest of Greece. "They are fond of change," say their Corinthian opponents in the Lacedemonian 20 Council ; "quick to plan and to perform, venturing beyond their power, hazarding beyond their judgment, and always sanguine in whatever difficulties. They are alive, while you, O Lacedemonians, dawdle ; and they love locomotion, while you are especially a home-people. They think to gain a 25 point, even when they withdraw ; but with you, even to advance is to surrender what you have attained. When they defeat their foe, they rush on ; when they are beaten, they hardly fall back. What they plan and do not follow up, they deem an actual loss ; what they set about and gain, they 30 count a mere instalment of the future ; what they attempt and fail in here, in anticipation they make up for there. Such is their labour and their risk from youth to age ; no men enjoy so little what they have, for they are always getting, and their best holiday is to do a stroke of needful work ; and 35

it is a misfortune to them to have to undergo, not the toil of business, but the listlessness of repose."

I do not mean to say that I trace the Englishman in every clause of this passage; but he is so far portrayed in it as a whole, as to suggest to us that perhaps he too, as well as the 5 Athenian, has that inward spring of restless independence, which makes a State weak, and a Nation great.

(b) PARALLEL CHARACTERISTICS OF  
ENGLISHMEN.

I HOPE I have now made it clear, that, in saying that a free State will not be strong, I am far indeed from saying that a People with what is called a free Constitution will not be active, powerful, influential, and successful. I am only saying that it will do its great deeds, not through the medium 5 of its government, or *politically*, but through the medium of its individual members, or *nationally*. Self-government, which is another name for political weakness, may really be the means or the token of national greatness. Athens, as a State, was wanting in the elements of integrity, firmness, and 10 consistency; but perhaps that political deficiency was the very condition and a result of her intellectual activity.

I will allow more than this readily. Not only in cases such as that of Athens, is the State's loss the Nation's gain, but further, most of those very functions which in despotisms 15 are undertaken by the State may be performed in free countries by the Nation. For instance, roads, the posts, railways, bridges, aqueducts, and the like, in absolute monarchies, are governmental matters; but they may be left to private energy, where self-government prevails. Letter-carriage indeed in- 20 involves an extent of system and a punctuality in work, which is too much for any combination of individuals; but the care of Religion, which is a governmental work in Russia, and partly so in England, is left to private competition in the United States. Education, in like manner, is sometimes pro- 25 vided by the State, sometimes left to religious denominations, sometimes to private zeal and charity. The Fine Arts some-

times depend on the patronage of Court or Government: sometimes are given in charge to Academies; sometimes to committees or vestries.

I do not say that a Nation will manage all these departments equally well, or so well as a despotic government; and 5 some departments it will not be able to manage at all. Did I think it could manage all, I should have nothing to write about. I am distinctly maintaining that the war department it cannot manage; that is my very point. It cannot conduct a war; but not from any fault in the nation, or with any re-10 sulting disparagement to popular governments and Constitutional States, but merely because we cannot have all things at once in this world, however big we are, and because, in the nature of things, one thing cannot be another. I do not say that a Constitutional State never must risk war, never must 15 engage in war, never will conquer in war; but that its strong point lies in the other direction. If we would see what liberty, independence, self-government, a popular Constitution, can do, we must look to times of tranquillity. In peace a self-governing nation is prosperous in itself, and influential in 20 the wide world. Its special works, the sciences, the useful arts, literature, the interests of knowledge generally, material comfort, the means and appliances of a happy life, thrive especially in peace. And thus such a nation spreads abroad, and subdues the world, and reigns in the admiration and 25 gratitude and deference of men, by the use of weapons which war shivers to pieces. Alas! that mortals do not know themselves, and will not (according to the proverb) cut their coat according to their cloth! “*Optat ephippia bos.*” John Bull, like other free, self-governing nations, would undertake 30 a little war just now, as if it were his *forte*,—as great lawyers have cared for nothing but a reputation for dancing gracefully, and literary men have bought a complex coat-of-arms at the Heralds’ College. Why will we not be content to be human? why not content with the well-grounded consciousness that 35

-no polity in the world is so wonderful, so good to its subjects, so favourable to individual energy, so pleasant to live under, as our own? I do not say, why will we go to war? but, why will we not *think twice* first? why do we not ascertain our actual position, our strength, our weakness, before we do so?

For centuries upon centuries England has been, like Attica, a secluded land; so remote from the highway of the world, so protected from the flood of Eastern and Northern barbarism, that her children have grown into a magnanimous contempt of external danger. They have had "a cheap defence" in the stormy sea which surrounds them; and, from time immemorial, they have had such skill in weathering it, that their wooden walls, to use the Athenian term, became a second rampart against the foe, whom wind and water did not overwhelm. So secure have they felt in those defences, that they have habitually neglected others; so that, in spite of their valour, when a foe once gained the shore, be he Dane, or Norman, or Dutch, he was encountered by no sustained action or organized resistance, and became their king. These, however, were rare occurrences, and made no lasting impression; they were not sufficient to divert them from pursuing, or to thwart them in attaining, the amplest measures of liberty. Whom had the people to fear? not even their ships, which could not, like military, become a paid force encircling a tyrant, and securing him against their resistance.

To these outward circumstances of England, determining the direction of its political growth, must be added the character of the people themselves. There are races to whom consanguinity itself is not concord and unanimity, but the reverse. They fight with each other, for lack of better company. Imaginative, fierce, vindictive, with their clans, their pedigrees, and their feuds, snorting war, spurning trade or tillage, the old Highlanders, if placed on the broad plains of England, would have in time run through their national

existence, and died the death of the sons of Œdipus. But, if you wish to see the sketch of a veritable Englishman in strong relief, refresh your recollection of Walter Scott's "Two Drovers." He is indeed rough, surly, a bully and a bigot; these are his weak points: but if ever there was a generous, 5 good, tender heart, it beats within his breast. Most placable, he forgives and forgets: forgets, not only the wrongs he has received, but the insults he has inflicted. Such he is commonly; for doubtless there are times and circumstances in his dealings with foreigners in which, whether when in de-10 spair, or from pride, he becomes truculent and simply hateful; but at home his bark is worse than his bite. He has qualities, excellent for the purposes of neighbourhood and intercourse;—and he has, besides, a shrewd sense, and a sobriety of judgment, and a practical logic, which passion 15 does not cloud, and which makes him understand that good-fellowship is not only commendable, but expedient too. And he has within him a spring of energy, pertinacity, and perseverance, which makes him as busy and effective in a colony as he is companionable at home. Some races do not move at 20 all; others are ever jostling against each other; the Englishman is ever stirring, yet never treads too hard upon his fellow-countryman's toes. He does his work neatly, silently, in his own place; he looks to himself, and can take care of himself; and he has that instinctive veneration for the law, that 25 he can worship it even in the abstract, and thus is fitted to go shares with others all around him in that political sovereignty, which other races are obliged to concentrate in one ruler.

There was a time when England was divided into seven principalities, formed out of the wild warriors whom the elder 30 race had called in to their own extermination. What would have been the history of those kingdoms if the invaders had been Highlanders instead of Saxons? But the Saxon Heptarchy went on, without any very desperate wars of kingdom with kingdom, pretty much as the nation goes on 35

now. Indeed, I much question, supposing Englishmen rose one morning and found themselves in a Heptarchy again, whether its seven portions would not jog on together, much as they do now under Queen Victoria, the union in both cases depending, not so much on the government and the 5 governed, but on the people, viewed in themselves, to whom peaceableness, justice, and non-interference are natural.

It is an invaluable national quality to be keen, yet to be fair to others; to be inquisitive, acquisitive, enterprising, aspiring, progressive, without encroaching upon his next neighbour's right to be the same. Such a people hardly need a Ruler, as being mainly free from the infirmities which make a ruler necessary. Law, like medicine, is only called for to assist nature; and, when nature does so much for a people, the wisest policy is, as far as possible, to leave them to themselves. This, then, is the science of government with English Statesmen, to leave the people alone; a free action, a clear stage, and they will do the rest for themselves. The more a Ruler meddles, the less he succeeds; the less he initiates, the more he accomplishes; his duty is that of overseeing, 20 facilitating, encouraging, guiding, interposing on emergencies. Some races are like children, and require a despot to nurse, and feed, and dress them, to give them pocket money, and take them out for airings. Others, more manly, prefer to be rid of the trouble of their affairs, and use their Ruler as their 25 mere manager and man of business. Now an Englishman likes to take his own matters into his own hands. He stands on his own ground, and does as much work as half a dozen men of certain other races. He can join too with others, and has a turn for organizing, but he insists on its being voluntary. 30 He is jealous of no one, except kings and governments, and offensive to no one except their partisans and creatures.

This, then, is the people for private enterprise; and of private enterprise alone have I been speaking all along. What a place is London in its extent, its complexity, its 35

myriads of dwellings, its subterraneous works! It is the production, for the most part, of individual enterprise. Waterloo Bridge was the greatest architectural achievement of the generation before this; it was built by shares. New regions, with streets of palaces and shops innumerable, each shop a 5 sort of shrine or temple of this or that trade, and each a treasure-house of its own merchandize, grow silently into existence, the creation of private spirit and speculation. The gigantic system of railroads rises and asks for its legal *status*: prudent statesmen decide that it must be left to private<sup>10</sup> companies, to the exclusion of Government. Trade is to be encouraged: the best encouragement is, that it should be free. A famine threatens; one thing must be avoided,—any meddling on the part of Government with the export and import of provisions. 15

Emigration is in vogue: out go swarms of colonists, not, as in ancient times, from the Prytaneum, under State guidance and with religious rites, but each by himself, and at his own arbitrary and sudden will. The ship is wrecked; the passengers are cast upon a rock,—or make the hazard of 20 a raft. In the extremest peril, in the most delicate and most anxious of operations, every one seems to find his place, as if by magic, and does his work, and subserves the rest with coolness, cheerfulness, gentleness, and without a master. Or they have a fair passage, and gain their new country; each 25 takes his allotted place there, and works in it in his own way. Each acts irrespectively of the rest, takes care of number one, with a kind word and deed for his neighbour, but still as fully understanding that he must depend for his own welfare on himself. Pass a few years, and a town has risen on the 30 desert beach, and houses of business are extending their connexions and influence up the country. At length, a company of merchants make the place their homestead, and they protect themselves from their enemies with a fort. They need a better defence than they have provided, for a numerous 35

host is advancing upon them, and they are likely to be driven into the sea. Suddenly a youth, the castaway of his family, half-clerk, half-soldier, puts himself at the head of a few troops, defends posts, gains battles, and ends in founding a mighty empire over the graves of Mahmood and 5 Aurungzebe.

It is the deed of one man ; and so, wherever we go, all over the earth, it is the solitary Briton, the London agent, or the *Milordos*, who is walking restlessly about, abusing the natives, and raising a colossus, or setting the Thames on fire, 10 in the East or the West. He is on the top of the Andes, or in a diving-bell in the Pacific, or taking notes at Timbuctoo, or grubbing at the Pyramids, or scouring over the Pampas, or acting as prime minister to the king of Dahomey, or smoking the pipe of friendship with the Red Indians, or hunting 15 at the Pole. No one can say beforehand what will come of these various specimens of the independent, self-governing, self-reliant Englishman. Sometimes failure, sometimes openings for trade, scientific discoveries, or political aggrandizements. His country and his government have the gain ; 20 but it is he who is the instrument of it, and not political organization, centralization, systematic plans, authoritative acts. The polity of England is what it was before,—the Government weak, the Nation strong,—strong in the strength of its multitudinous enterprise, which gives to its Government 25 a position in the world, which that Government could not claim for itself by any prowess or device of its own.

(c) *REVERSE OF THE PICTURE.*

THE social union promises two great and contrary advantages, Protection and Liberty,—such protection as shall not interfere with liberty, and such liberty as shall not interfere with protection. How much a given nation can secure of the one, and how much of the other, depends on its peculiar circumstances. As there are small frontier territories, which find it their interest to throw themselves into the hands of some great neighbour, sacrificing their liberties as the price of purchasing safety from barbarians or rivals, so too there are countries which, in the absence of external danger, have<sup>10</sup> abandoned themselves to the secure indulgence of freedom, to the jealous exercise of self-government, and to the scientific formation of a Constitution. And as, when liberty has to be surrendered for protection, the Horse must not be surprised if the Man whips or spurs him, so, when protection<sup>15</sup> is neglected for the sake of liberty, he must not be surprised if he suffers from the horns of the Stag.

Protected by the sea, and gifted with a rare energy, self-possession, and imperturbability, the English people have been able to carry out self-government to its limits, and to<sup>20</sup> absorb into its constitutional action many of those functions which are necessary for the protection of any country, and commonly belong to the Executive; and triumphing in their marvellous success they have thought no task too hard for them, and have from time to time attempted more than<sup>25</sup> even England could accomplish. Such a crisis has come upon us now, and the Constitution has not been equal to the

occasion. For a year past we have been conducting a great war on our Constitutional *routine*, and have not succeeded in it. If we continue that *routine*, we shall have more failures, with France or Russia (whichever you please) to profit by it:—if we change it, we change what after all is Constitutional. It 5 is this dilemma which makes me wish for peace,—or else some *Deus è machind*, some one greater even than Wellington, to carry us through. We cannot depend upon Constitutional *routine*.

\* People abuse *routine*, and say that all the mischief which 10 happens is the fault of *routine*;—but can they get out of *routine*, without getting out of the Constitution? That is the question. The fault of a *routine* Executive, I suppose, is not that the Executive always goes on in one way,—else, system is in fault,—but that it goes on in a bad way, or on a bad 15 system. We must either change the system, then,—our Constitutional system; or not find fault with its *routine*, which is according to it. The present Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry, for instance, is either a function and instrument of the *routine* system,—and therefore is making bad worse,—or 20 is not,—and then perhaps it is only the beginning of an infringement of the Constitution. There may be Constitutional failures which have no Constitutional remedies, unwilling as we may be to allow it. They may be necessarily incidental to a free self-governing people.

25

The Executive of a nation is the same all over the world, being, in other words, the administration of the nation's affairs; it differs in different countries, not in its nature and office, nor in its ends, acts, or functions, but in its characteristics, as being prompt, direct, effective, or the contrary; that 30 is, as being strong or feeble. If it pursues its ends earnestly, performs its acts vigorously, and discharges its functions successfully, then it is a strong Executive; if otherwise, it is feeble. Now, it is obvious, the more it is concentrated, that is, the fewer are its springs, and the simpler its mechanism, 35

the stronger it is, because it has least friction and loss of power ; on the other hand, the more numerous and widely dispersed its centres of action are, and the more complex and circuitous their inter-action, the more feeble it is. It is strongest, then, when it is lodged in one man out of the whole 5 nation ; it is feeblest, when it is lodged, by participation or conjointly, in every man in it. How can we help what is self-evident ? If the English people lodge power in the many, not in the few, what wonder that its operation is roundabout, clumsy, slow, intermittent, and disappointing ? And what is<sup>10</sup> the good of finding fault with the *routine*, if it is after all the principle of the *routine*, or the system, or the Constitution, which causes the hitch ? You cannot eat your cake and have it ; you cannot be at once a self-governing nation and have a strong government. Recollect Wellington's question in 15 opposition to the Reform Bill, " How is the King's Government to be carried on ? " We are beginning to experience its full meaning.

A people so alive, so curious, so busy as the English, will be a power in themselves, independently of political arrangements ; and will be on that very ground jealous of a rival, impatient of a master, and strong enough to cope with the one and to withstand the other. A government is their natural foe ; they cannot do without it altogether, but they will have of it as little as they can. They will forbid the con- 25 centration of power ; they will multiply its seats, complicate its acts, and make it safe by making it inefficient. They will take care that it is the worst-worked of all the many organizations which are found in their country. As despotisms keep their subjects in ignorance, lest they should rebel, so will 30 a free people maim and cripple their government, lest it should tyrannize.

This is human nature ; the more powerful a man is, the more jealous is he of other powers. Little men endure little men ; but great men aim at a solitary grandeur. The English nation 35

is intensely conscious of itself ; it has seen, inspected, recognized, appreciated, and warranted itself. It has erected itself into a personality, under the style and title of John Bull. Most neighbourly is he when left alone ; but irritable, when commanded or coerced. He wishes to form his own judgment in all matters, and to have everything proved to him ; he dislikes the thought of generously placing his interests in the hands of others, he grudges to give up what he cannot really keep himself, and stickles for being at least a sleeping partner in transactions which are beyond him. He pays his people 10 for their work, and is as proud of them, if they do it well, as a rich man of his tall footmen.

Policy might teach him a different course. If you want your work done well, which you cannot do yourself, find the best man, put it into his hand, and trust him implicitly. An 15 Englishman is too sensible not to understand this in private matters ; but in matters of State he is afraid of such a policy. He prefers the system of checks and counter-checks, the division of power, the imperative concurrence of disconnected officials, and his own supervision and revision,—the method of 20 hitches, cross-purposes, collisions, dead-locks, to the experiment of treating his public servants as gentlemen. I am not quarrelling with what is inevitable in his system of self-government ; I only say that he cannot expect his work done in the best style, if this is his mode of providing for it. Duplicate 25 functionaries do but merge responsibility ; and a jealous master is paid with formal, heartless service. Do your footmen love you across the gulf which you have fixed between them and you ? and can you expect your store-keepers and harbour-masters at Balaklava not to serve you by rule and precedent, 30 not to be rigid in their interpretation of your orders, and to commit themselves as little as they can, when you show no belief in their zeal, and have no mercy on their failures ?

England, surely, is the paradise of little men, and the purgatory of great ones. May I never be a Minister of State 35

or a Field-Marshal! I'd be an individual, self-respecting Briton, in my own private castle, with the *Times* to see the world by, and pen and paper to scribble off withal to some public print, and set the world right. Public men are only my *employés*; I use them as I think fit, and turn them off 5 without warning. Aberdeen, Gladstone, Sidney Herbert, Newcastle, what are they muttering about services and ingratitude? were they not paid? hadn't they their regular quarter-day? Raglan, Burgoyne, Dundas,—I cannot recollect all the fellows' names,—can they merit aught? can they be 10 profitable to me their lord and master? And so, having no tenderness or respect for their persons, their antecedents, or their age,—not caring that in fact they are serving me with all their strength, not asking whether, if they manage ill, it be not, perchance, because they are in the fetters of Constitutional 15 red tape, which have weighed on their hearts and deadened their energies, till the hazard of failure and the fear of censure have quenched the spirit of daring, I think it becoming • and generous,—during, not after their work, not when it is ended, but in the very agony of conflict,—to institute a formal 20 process of inquiry into their demerits, not secret, not indulgent to their sense of honour, but in the hearing of all Europe, and amid the scorn of the world,—hitting down, knocking over, my workhouse apprentices, in order that they may get up again, and do my matters for me better. 25

How far these ways of managing a crisis can be amended in a self-governing Nation, it is most difficult to say. They are doubly deplorable, as being both unjust and impolitic. They are kind, neither to ourselves, nor to our public servants; and they so unpleasantly remind one of certain passages of 30 Athenian history, as to suggest that perhaps they must ever more or less exist, except where a despotism, by simply extinguishing liberty, effectually prevents its abuse.

## THE NORMEN.

### 1.

THE collision between Russia and Turkey, which at present engages public attention, is only one scene in that persevering conflict, which is carried on, from age to age, between the North and the South,—the North aggressive, the South on the defensive. In the earliest histories this conflict finds a place ; and hence, when the inspired Prophets<sup>1</sup> denounce defeat and captivity upon the chosen people or other transgressing nations, who were inhabitants of the South, the North is pointed out as the quarter from which the judgment is to descend.

5

10

Nor is this conflict, nor is its perpetuity, difficult of explanation. The South ever has gifts of nature to tempt the invader, and the North ever has multitudes to be tempted by them. The North has been fitly called the storehouse of nations. Along the breadth of Asia, and thence to Europe, 15 from the Chinese sea on the East, to the Euxine on the West, nay to the Rhine, nay even to the Bay of Biscay, running between and beyond the 40th and 50th degrees of latitude, and above the fruitful South, stretches a vast plain, which has been from time immemorial what may be called the 20 wild common and place of encampment, or again the highway, or the broad horse-path, of restless populations seeking a home. The European portion of this tract has in Christian times been reclaimed from its state of desolation, and is at present occupied by civilized communities ; but even now 25

<sup>1</sup> Isai. xli. 25 ; Jer. i. 14 ; vi. 1, 22 ; Joel ii. 20 ; etc., etc.

the East remains for the most part in its primitive neglect,<sup>\*</sup> and is in possession of roving barbarians.

It is the Eastern portion of this vast territory which I have pointed out, that I have now, Gentlemen, principally to keep before your view. It goes by the general name of Tartary: 5 in width from north to south it is said to vary from 400 to 1,100 miles, while in length from east to west it is not far short of 5,000. It is of very different elevations in different parts, and it is divided longitudinally by as many as three or four mountain-chains of great height. The valleys which lie 10 between them necessarily confine the wandering savage to an eastward or westward course, and the slope of the land westward invites him to that direction rather than to the east. Then, at a certain point in these westward passages, as he approaches the meridian of the Sea of Aral, he finds the 15 mountain-ranges cease, and open upon him the opportunity, as well as the temptation, to roam to the North or to the South also. Up in the East, from whence he came, in the most northerly of the lofty ranges which I have spoken of, is a great mountain, which some geographers have identified 20 with the classical Imaus; it is called by the Saracens Caf, by the Turks Altai. Sometimes too it has the name of the Girdle of the Earth, from the huge appearance of the chain to which it belongs, sometimes of the Golden Mountain, from the gold, as well as other metals, with which its sides abound. 25 It is said to be at an equal distance of 2,000 miles from the Caspian, the Frozen Sea, the North Pacific Ocean, and the Bay of Bengal: and, being in situation the furthest withdrawn from West and South, it is in fact the high capital or metropolis of the vast Tartar country, which it overlooks, and 30 has sent forth, in the course of ages, innumerable populations into the illimitable and mysterious regions around it, regions protected by their inland character both from the observation and the civilizing influence of foreign nations.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Gibbon.

## 2.

To eat bread in the sweat of his brow is the original punishment of mankind ; the indolence of the savage shrinks from the obligation, and looks out for methods of escaping it. Corn, wine, and oil have no charms for him at such a price ; he turns to the brute animals which are his aboriginal 5 companions, the horse, the cow, and the sheep ; he chooses to be a grazier rather than to till the ground. He feeds his horses, flocks, and herds on its spontaneous vegetation, and then in turn he feeds himself on their flesh. He remains on one spot while the natural crop yields them sustenance ; 10 when it is exhausted, he migrates to another. He adopts, what is called, the life of a *nomad*. In maritime countries indeed he must have recourse to other expedients ; he fishes in the stream, or among the rocks of the beach. In the woods he betakes himself to roots and wild honey ; or he has 15 a resource in the chase, an occupation, ever ready at hand, exciting, and demanding no perseverance. But when the savage finds himself inclosed in the continent and the wilderness, he draws the domestic animals about him, and constitutes himself the head of a sort of brute polity. He 20 becomes a king and father of the beasts, and by the economical arrangements which this pretension involves, advances a first step, though a low one, in civilization, which the hunter or the fisher does not attain.

And here, beyond other animals, the horse is the instrument 25 of that civilization. It enables him to govern and to guide his sheep and cattle ; it carries him to the chase, when he is tempted to it ; it transports him and his from place to place ; while his very locomotion and shifting location and independence of the soil define the idea, and secure the existence, 30 both of a household and of personal property. Nor is this all which the horse does for him ; it is food both in its life

and in its death ;—when dead, it nourishes him with its flesh, and, while alive, it supplies its milk for an intoxicating liquor which, under the name of *koumiss*, has from time immemorial served the Tartar instead of wine and spirits. The horse then is his friend under all circumstances, and inseparable 5 from him ; he may be even said to live on horseback, he eats and sleeps without dismounting, till the fable has been current that he has a centaur's nature, half man and half beast. Hence it was that the ancient Saxons had a horse for their ensign in war ; thus it is that the Ottoman ordinances are, 10 I believe, to this day dated from “the imperial stirrup,” and the display of horsetails at the gate of the palace is the Ottoman signal of war. Thus too, as the Catholic ritual measures intervals by “a Miserere,” and St. Ignatius in his Exercises by “a Pater Noster,” so the Tucomans and the Usbekss speak familiarly of the time of a gallop. But as to houses, on the other hand, the Tartars contemptuously called 15 them the sepulchres of the living, and, when abroad, could hardly be persuaded to cross a threshold. Their women, indeed, and children could not live on horseback ; them some 20 kind of locomotive dwelling must receive, and a less noble animal must draw. The old historians and poets of Greece and Rome describe it, and the travellers of the middle ages repeat and enlarge the classical description of it. The strangers from Europe gazed with astonishment on huge 25 wattled houses set on wheels, and drawn by no less than twenty-two oxen.

## 3.

From the age of Job, the horse has been the emblem of battle ; a mounted shepherd is but one remove from a knighterrant, except in the object of his excursions ; and the 30 discipline of a pastoral station from the nature of the case is not very different from that of a camp. There can be no community without order, and a community in motion

demands a special kind of organization. Provision must be made for the separation, the protection, and the sustenance of men, women, and children, horses, flocks, and cattle. To march without straggling, to halt without confusion, to make good their ground, to reconnoitre neighbourhoods, to ascertain 5 the character and capabilities of places in the distance, and to determine their future route, is to be versed in some of the most important duties of the military art. Such pastoral tribes are already an army in the field, if not as yet against any human foe, at least against the elements. They have to 10 subdue, or to check, or to circumvent, or to endure the opposition of earth, water, and wind, in their pursuits of the mere necessities of life. The war with wild beasts naturally follows, and then the war on their own kind. Thus when they are at length provoked or allured to direct their fury 15 against the inhabitants of other regions, they are ready-made soldiers. They have a soldier's qualifications in their independence of soil, freedom from local ties, and practice in discipline; nay, in one respect they are superior to any troops which civilized countries can produce. One of the 20 problems of warfare is how to feed the vast masses which its operations require; and hence it is commonly said, that a well-managed commissariat is a chief condition of victory. Few people can fight without eating;—Englishmen as little as any. I have heard of a work of a foreign officer, who 25 took a survey of the European armies previously to the revolutionary war; in which he praised our troops highly, but said they would not be effective till they were supported by a better commissariat. Moreover, one commonly hears, that the supply of this deficiency is one of the very merits of the 30 great Duke of Wellington. So it is with civilized races; but the Tartars, as is evident from what I have already observed, have in their wars no need of any commissariat at all; and that, not merely from the unscrupulousness of their foraging, but because they find in the instruments of their conquests 35

the staple of their food. "Corn is a bulky and perishable commodity," says an historian;<sup>1</sup> "and the large magazines, which are indispensably necessary for the subsistence of civilized troops, are difficult and slow of transport." But, not to say that even their flocks and herds were fitted for 5 rapid movement, like the nimble sheep of Wales and the wild cattle of North Britain, the Tartars could even dispense with these altogether. If straitened for provisions, they ate the chargers which carried them to battle; indeed they seemed to account their flesh a delicacy, above the reach of the poor,<sup>10</sup> and in consequence were enjoying a banquet in circumstances when civilized troops would be starving off starvation. And with a view to such accidents, they have been accustomed to carry with them in their expeditions a number of super-numerary horses, which they might either ride or eat, ac-15 cording to the occasion. It was an additional advantage to them in their warlike movements, that they were little particular whether their food had been killed for the purpose, or had died of disease. Nor is this all: their horses' hides were made into tents and clothing, perhaps into bottles and 20 coracles; and their intestines into bowstrings.<sup>2</sup>

Trained then, as they are, to habits which in themselves invite to war, the inclemency of their native climate has been a constant motive for them to seek out settlements and places of sojournment elsewhere. The spacious plains, over which 25 they roam, are either monotonous grazing lands, or inhospitable deserts, relieved with green valleys or recesses. The cold is intense in a degree of which we have no experience in England, though we lie to the north of them.<sup>3</sup> This arises in a measure from their distance from the sea, and again from 30 their elevation of level, and further from the saltpetre with which their soil or their atmosphere is impregnated. The sole influence then of their fatherland, if I may apply to it

<sup>1</sup> Gibbon.

<sup>2</sup> Caldecott's Baber.

<sup>3</sup> Vid. Mitford's Greece, vol. viii. p. 86.

such a term, is to drive its inhabitants from it to the West or to the South.

## 4.

I have said that the geographical features of their country carry them forward in those two directions, the South and the West; not to say that the ocean forbids them going eastward, and the North does but hold out to them a climate more inclement than their own. Leaving the district of Mongolia in the furthermost East, high above the north of China, and passing through the long and broad valleys which I spoke of just now, the emigrants at length would arrive at 10 the edge of that elevated plateau, which constitutes Tartary proper. They would pass over the high region of Pamir, where are the sources of the Oxus, they would descend the terrace of the Bolor, and the steeps of Badakshan, and gradually reach a vast region, flat on the whole as the expanse 15 they had left, but as strangely depressed below the level of the sea, as Tartary is lifted above it.<sup>1</sup> This is the country, forming the two basins of the Aral and the Caspian, which terminates the immense Asiatic plain, and may be vaguely designated by the name of Turkistan. Hitherto the necessity 20 of their route would force them on, in one multitudinous emigration, but now they may diverge, and have diverged. If they were to cross the Jaxartes and the Oxus, and then to proceed southward, they would come to Khorasan, the ancient Bactriana, and so to Afghanistan and to Hindostan on the 25 east, or to Persia on the west. But if, instead, they continued their westward course, then they would skirt the north coast of the Aral and the Caspian, cross the Volga, and there would have a second opportunity, if they chose to avail themselves of it, of descending southwards, by Georgia and 30 Armenia, either to Syria or to Asia Minor. Refusing this

<sup>1</sup> Pritchard's Researches.

diversion, and persevering onwards to the west, at length they would pass the Don, and descend upon Europe across the Ukraine, Bessarabia, and the Danube.

Such are the three routes,—across the Oxus, across the Caucasus, and across the Danube,—which the pastoral nations have variously pursued at various times, when their roving habits, their warlike propensities, and their discomforts at home, have combined to precipitate them on the industry, the civilization, and the luxury of the West and of the South. And at such times, as might be inferred from what has been already said, their invasions have been rather irruptions, inroads, or, what are called, raids, than a proper conquest and occupation of the countries which have been their victims. They would go forward, 200,000 of them at once, at the rate of 100 miles a day, swimming the rivers, galloping over the plains, intoxicated with the excitement of air and speed, as if it were a fox-chase, or full of pride and fury at the reverses which set them in motion ; seeking indeed their fortunes, but seeking them on no plan ; like a flight of locusts, or a swarm of angry wasps smoked out of their nest. They would seek for immediate gratification, and let the future take its course. They would be bloodthirsty and rapacious, and would inflict ruin and misery to any extent ; and they would do tenfold more harm to the invaded, than benefit to themselves. They would be powerful to break down ; helpless to build up. They would in a day undo the labour and skill, the prosperity of years ; but they would not know how to construct a polity, how to conduct a government, how to organize a system of slavery, or to digest a code of laws. Rather they would despise the sciences of politics, law, and finance ; and, if they honoured any profession or vocation, it would be such as bore immediately and personally on themselves. Thus we find them treating the priest and the physician with respect, when they found such among their captives ; but they could not endure the presence of a lawyer. How could it be otherwise

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with those who may be called the outlaws of the human race ? They did but justify the seeming paradox of the traveller's exclamation, who, when at length, after a dreary passage through the wilderness, he came in sight of a gibbet, returned thanks that he had now arrived at a civilized country. 5  
“The pastoral tribes,” says the writer I have already quoted, “who were ignorant of the distinction of landed property, must have disregarded the use, as well as the abuse, of civil jurisprudence ; and the skill of an eloquent lawyer would excite only their contempt or their abhorrence.” And he refers 10 to an outrage on the part of a barbarian of the North, who, not satisfied with cutting out a lawyer’s tongue, sewed up his mouth, in order, as he said, that the viper might no longer hiss. The well-known story of the Czar Peter, himself a Tartar, is here in point. When told there were some thousands of lawyers at Westminster, he is said to have observed 15 that there had been only two in his own dominions, and he had hung one of them.

## 5.

Now I have thrown the various inhabitants of the Asiatic plain together, under one description, not as if I overlooked, 20 or undervalued, the distinction of races, but because I have no intention of committing myself to any statements on so intricate and interminable a subject as ethnology. In spite of the controversy about skulls, and skins, and languages, by means of which man is to be traced up to his primitive condition, I consider place and climate to be a sufficiently real aspect under which he may be regarded, and with this I shall content myself. I am speaking of the inhabitants of those extended plains, whether Scythians, Massagetae, Sarmatians, Huns, Moguls, Tartars, Turks, or anything else ; and whether 25 or no any of them or all of them are identical with each other in their pedigree and antiquities. Position and climate create habits ; and, since the country is called Tartary, I shall call

them Tartar habits, and the populations which have inhabited it and exhibited them, Tartars, for convenience-sake, whatever be their family descent. From the circumstances of their situation, these populations have in all ages been shepherds, mounted on horseback, roaming through trackless spaces, 5 easily incited to war, easily formed into masses, easily dissolved again into their component parts, suddenly sweeping across continents, suddenly descending on the south or west, suddenly extinguishing the civilization of ages, suddenly forming empires, suddenly vanishing, no one knows how, into 10 their native north.

Such is the fearful provision for havoc and devastation, when the Divine Word goes forth for judgment upon the civilized world, which the North has ever had in store ; and the regions on which it has principally expended its fury, are those, whose 15 fatal beauty, or richness of soil, or perfection of cultivation, or exquisiteness of produce, or amenity of climate, makes them objects of desire to the barbarian. Such are China, Hindostan, Persia, Syria, and Anatolia or the Levant, in Asia ; Greece, Italy, Sicily, and Spain, in Europe ; and the northern coast 20 of Africa.

These regions, on the contrary, have neither the inducement nor the means to retaliate upon their ferocious invaders. The relative position of the combatants must always be the same, while the combat lasts. The South has nothing to win, 25 the North nothing to lose ; the North nothing to offer, the South nothing to covet. Nor is this all : the North as in an impregnable fortress, defies the attack of the South. Immense trackless solitudes ; no cities, no tillage, no roads ; deserts, forests, marshes ; bleak table-lands, snowy mountains ; un- 30 located, flitting, receding populations ; no capitals, or marts, or strong places, or fruitful vales, to hold as hostages for submission ; fearful winters and many months of them ;—nature herself fights and conquers for the barbarian. What madness shall tempt the South to undergo extreme risks without the 35

prospect or chance of a return? True it is, ambition, whose very life is a fever, has now and then ventured on the reckless expedition; but from the first page of history to the last, from Cyrus to Napoleon, what has the Northern war done for the greatest warriors but destroy the flower of their armies and 5 the *prestige* of their name? Our maps, in placing the North at the top, and the South at the bottom of the sheet, impress us, by what may seem a sophistical analogy, with the imagination that Huns or Moguls, Kalmucks or Cossacks, have been a superincumbent mass, descending by a sort of gravitation 10 upon the fair territories which lie below them. Yet this is substantially true;—though the attraction towards the South is of a moral, not of a physical nature, yet an attraction there is, and a huge conglomeration of destructive elements hangs over us, and from time to time rushes down with an awful 15 irresistible momentum. Barbarism is ever impending over the civilized world. Never, since history began, has there been so long a cessation of this law of human society, as in the period in which we live. The descent of the Turks on Europe was the last instance of it, and that was completed 20 four hundred years ago. They are now themselves in the position of those races, whom they themselves formerly came down upon.

## 6.

As to the instances of this conflict between North and South in the times before the Christian era, we know more of them 25 from antiquarian research than from history. The principal of those which ancient writers have recorded are contained in the history of the Persian Empire. The wandering Tartar tribes went at that time by the name of Scythians, and had possession of the plains of Europe as well as of Asia. Central 30 Europe was not at that time the seat of civilized nations; but from the Chinese Sea even to the Rhine or Bay of Biscay, a course of many thousand miles, the barbarian emigrant might

wander on, as necessity or caprice impelled him. Darius assailed the Scythians of Europe ; Cyrus, his predecessor, the Scythians of Asia.

As to Cyrus, writers are not concordant on the subject ; but the celebrated Greek historian, Herodotus, whose accuracy 5 of research is generally confessed, makes the great desert, which had already been fatal, according to some accounts, to the Assyrian Semiramis, the ruin also of the founder of the Persian Empire. He tells us that Cyrus led an army against the Scythian tribes (Massagetae, as they were called), who were 10 stationed to the east of the Caspian ; and that they, on finding him prepared to cross the river which bounded their country to the South, sent him a message which well illustrates the hopelessness of going to war with them. They are said to have given him his choice of fighting them either three 15 days' march within their own territory, or three days' march within his ; it being the same to them whether he made himself a grave in their inhospitable deserts, or they a home in his flourishing provinces. He had with him in his army a celebrated captive, the Lydian King Croesus, who had once been 20 head of a wealthy empire, till he had succumbed to the fortunes of a more illustrious conqueror ; and on this occasion he availed himself of his advice. Croesus cautioned him against admitting the barbarians within the Persian border, and counselled him to accept their permission of his advancing 25 into their territory, and then to have recourse to stratagem. "As I hear," he says in the simple style of the historian, which will not bear translation, "the Massagetae have no experience of the good things of life. Spare not then to serve up many sheep, and add thereunto stoups of neat wine, and all sorts of 30 viands. Set out this banquet for them in our camp, leave the refuse of the army there, and retreat with the body of your troops upon the river. If I am not mistaken, the Scythians will address themselves to all this good cheer, as soon as they fall in with it, and then we shall have the opportunity of 35

a brilliant exploit." I need not pursue the history further than to state the issue. In spite of the immediate success of his *ruse de guerre*, Cyrus was eventually defeated, and lost both his army and his life. The Scythian Queen Tomyris, in revenge for the lives which he had sacrificed to his ambition, 5 is related to have cut off his head and plunged it into a vessel filled with blood, saying, "Cyrus, drink your fill." Such is the account given us by Herodotus; and, even if it is to be rejected, it serves to illustrate the difficulties of an invasion of Scythia; for legends must be framed according to the circumstances of the case, and grow out of probabilities, if they are to gain credit, and if they have actually succeeded in gaining it.

## 7.

Our knowledge of the expedition of Darius in the next generation, is more certain. This fortunate monarch, after 15 many successes, even on the European side of the Bosphorus, impelled by that ambition, which holy Daniel had already seen in prophecy to threaten West and North as well as South, towards the end of his life directed his arms against the Scythians who inhabited the country now called the Ukraine. His pre-20 text for this expedition was an incursion which the same barbarians had made into Asia, shortly before the time of Cyrus. They had crossed the Don, just above the sea of Azoff, had entered the country now called Circassia, had threaded the defiles of the Caucasus, and had defeated the Median King 25 Cyaxares, the grandfather of Cyrus. Then they overran Armenia, Cappadocia, Pontus, and part of Lydia, that is, a great portion of Anatolia or Asia Minor; and managed to establish themselves in the country for twenty-eight years, living by plunder and exaction. In the course of this period, 30 they descended into Syria, as far as to the very borders of Egypt. The Egyptians bought them off, and they turned back; however, they possessed themselves of a portion of

Palestine, and gave their name to one town, Scythopolis, in the territory of Manasses. This was in the last days of the Jewish monarchy, shortly before the captivity. At length Cyaxares got rid of them by treachery ; he invited the greater number of them to a banquet, intoxicated, and massacred them. 5 Nor was this the termination of the troubles, of which they were the authors ; and I mention the sequel, because both the office which they undertook and their manner of discharging it, their insubordination and their cruelty, are an anticipation of some passages in the early history of the Turks. The 10 Median King had taken some of them into his pay, made them his huntsmen, and submitted certain noble youths to their training. Justly or unjustly they happened one day to be punished for leaving the royal table without its due supply of game : without more ado, the savages in revenge murdered 15 and served up one of these youths instead of the venison which had been expected of them, and made forthwith for the neighbouring kingdom of Lydia. A war between the two states was the consequence.

But to return to Darius :—it is said to have been in re- 20 taliation for these excesses that he resolved on his expedition against the Scythians, who, as I have mentioned, were in occupation of the district between the Danube and the Don. For this purpose he advanced from Susa in the neighbourhood of the Persian Gulf, through Assyria and Asia Minor to the 25 Bosphorus, just opposite to the present site of Constantinople, where he crossed over into Europe. Thence he made his way, with the incredible number of 700,000 men, horse and foot, to the Danube, reducing Thrace, the present Roumelia, in his way. When he had crossed that stream, he was at once in 30 Scythia ; but the Scythians had adopted the same sort of strategy, which in the beginning of this century was practised by their successors against Napoleon. They cut and carried off the green crops, stopped up their wells or spoilt their water, and sent off their families and flocks to places of safety. Then 35

they stationed their outposts just a day's journey before the enemy, to entice him on. He pursued them, they retreated ; and at length he found himself on the Don, the further boundary of the Scythian territory. They crossed the Don, and he crossed it too, into desolate and unknown wilds ; then, 5 eluding him altogether, from their own knowledge of the country, they made a circuit, and got back into their own land again.

Darius found himself outwitted, and came to a halt : how he had victualled his army, whatever deduction we make for 10 its numbers, does not appear ; but it is plain that the time must come, when he could not proceed. He gave the order for retreat. Meanwhile, he found an opportunity of sending a message to the Scythian chief, and it was to this effect :— “Perverse man, take your choice ; fight me or yield.” The 15 Scythians intended to do neither, but contrived, as before, to harass the Persian retreat. At length an answer came ; not a message, but an ominous gift ; they sent Darius a bird, a mouse, a frog, and five arrows ; without a word of explanation. Darius himself at first hailed it as an intimation of 20 submission ; in Greece to offer earth and water was the sign of capitulation, as, in a sale of land in our own country, a clod from the soil still passes, or passed lately, from seller to purchaser, as a symbol of the transfer of possession. The Persian king, then, discerned in these singular presents a 25 similar surrender of territorial jurisdiction. But another version, less favourable to his vanity and his hopes, was suggested by one of his courtiers, and it ran thus : “Unless you can fly like a bird, or burrow like a mouse, or swim the marshes like a frog, you cannot escape our arrows.” Whichever interpretation was the true one, it needed no message from the enemy to inflict upon Darius the presence of the dilemma suggested in this unpleasant interpretation. He yielded to imperative necessity, and hastened his escape from the formidable situation in which he had placed himself, and through great good 35

fortune succeeded in effecting it. He crossed the sea just in time; for the Scythians came down in pursuit, as far as the coast, and returned home laden with booty.

This is pretty much all that is definitely recorded in history of the ancient Tartars. Alexander, in a later age, came into conflict with them in the region called Sogdiana which lies at the foot of that high plateau of central and eastern Asia, which I have designated as their proper home. But he was too prudent to be entangled in extended expeditions against them, and having made trial of their formidable strength, 10 and made some demonstrations of the superiority of his own, he left them in possession of their wildernesses.

SCENES FROM "CALLISTA".

(a) *THE DESCENT OF THE LOCUSTS.*

THE plague of locusts, one of the most awful visitations to which the countries included in the Roman Empire were exposed, extended from the Atlantic to Ethiopia, from Arabia to India, and from the Nile and Red Sea to Greece and the north of Asia Minor. Instances are recorded in history of 5 clouds of the devastating insect crossing the Black Sea to Poland, and the Mediterranean to Lombardy. It is as numerous in its species as it is wide in its range of territory. Brood follows brood, with a sort of family likeness, yet with distinct attributes, as we read in the prophets of the Old 10 Testament, from whom Bochart tells us it is possible to enumerate as many as ten kinds. It wakens into existence and activity as early as the month of March; but instances are not wanting, as in our present history, of its appearance as late as June. Even one flight comprises myriads upon 15 myriads passing imagination, to which the drops of rain or the sands of the sea are the only fit comparison; and hence it is almost a proverbial mode of expression in the East (as may be illustrated by the sacred pages to which we just now referred), by way of describing a vast invading 20 army, to liken it to the locusts. So dense are they, when upon the wing, that it is no exaggeration to say that they hide the sun, from which circumstance indeed their name in Arabic is derived. And so ubiquitous are they when they have alighted on the earth, that they simply cover or clothe 25 its surface.

This last characteristic is stated in the sacred account of

the plagues of Egypt, where their faculty of devastation is also mentioned. The corrupting fly and the bruising and prostrating hail had preceded them in that series of visitations, but *they* came to do the work of ruin more thoroughly. For not only the crops and fruits, but the foliage of the forest 5 itself, nay, the small twigs and the bark of the trees are the victims of their curious and energetic rapacity. They have been known even to gnaw the door-posts of the houses. Nor do they execute their task in so slovenly a way, that, as they have succeeded other plagues so they may have successors 10 themselves. They take pains to spoil what they leave. Like the Harpies, they smear every thing that they touch with a miserable slime, which has the effect of a virus in corroding, or, as some say, in scorching and burning it. And then, as if all this were little, when they can do nothing else, they 15 die;—as if out of sheer malevolence to man, for the poisonous elements of their nature are then let loose, and dispersed abroad, and create a pestilence; and they manage to destroy many more by their death than in their life.

Such are the locusts,—whose existence the ancient heretics 20 brought forward as their palmary proof that there was an evil creator, and of whom an Arabian writer shows his national horror, when he says that they have the head of a horse, the eyes of an elephant, the neck of a bull, the horns of a stag, the breast of a lion, the belly of a scorpion, the 25 wings of an eagle, the legs of a camel, the feet of an ostrich, and the tail of a serpent.

And now they are rushing upon a considerable tract of that beautiful region of which we have spoken with such admiration. The swarm to which Juba pointed grew and grew 30 till it became a compact body, as much as a furlong square; yet it was but the vanguard of a series of similar hosts, formed one after another out of the hot mould or sand, rising into the air like clouds, enlarging into a dusky canopy, and then discharged against the fruitful plain. At length the huge 35

innumerable mass was put into motion, and began its career, darkening the face of day. As became an instrument of divine power, it seemed to have no volition of its own ; it was set off, it drifted, with the wind, and thus made northwards, straight for Sicca. Thus they advanced, host after host, for a time wafted on the air, and gradually declining to the earth, while fresh broods were carried over the first, and neared the earth, after a longer flight, in their turn. For twelve miles did they extend from front to rear, and their whizzing and hissing could be heard for six miles on every side of them. The bright sun, though hidden by them, illuminated their bodies, and was reflected from their quivering wings ; and as they heavily fell earthward, they seemed like the innumerable flakes of a yellow-coloured snow. And like snow did they descend, a living carpet, or rather pall, upon fields, crops, gardens, copses, groves, orchards, vineyards, olive woods, orangeries, palm plantations, and the deep forests, sparing nothing within their reach, and where there was nothing to devour, lying helpless in drifts, or crawling forward obstinately, as they best might, with the hope of prey. They could spare their hundred thousand soldiers twice or thrice over, and not miss them ; their masses filled the bottoms of the ravines and hollow ways, impeding the traveller as he rode forward on his journey, and trampled by thousands under his horse-hoofs. In vain was all this over-throw and waste by the road-side ; in vain their loss in river, pool, and watercourse. The poor peasants hastily dug pits and trenches as their enemy came on ; in vain they filled them from the wells or with lighted stubble. Heavily and thickly did the locusts fall : they were lavish of their lives ; they choked the flame and the water, which destroyed them the while, and the vast living hostile armament still moved on.

They moved right on like soldiers in their ranks, stopping at nothing, and straggling for nothing ; they carried a broad furrow or wheal all across the country, black and loathsome,

while it was as green and smiling on each side of them and in front, as it had been before they came. Before them, in the language of prophets, was a paradise; and behind them a desert. They are daunted by nothing; they surmount walls and hedges, and enter enclosed gardens or inhabited 5 houses. A rare and experimental vineyard has been planted in a sheltered grove. The high winds of Africa will not commonly allow the light trellis or the slim pole; but here the lofty poplar of Campania has been possible, on which the vine plant mounts so many yards into the air, that the poor 10 grape-gatherers bargain for a funeral pile and a tomb as one of the conditions of their engagement. The locusts have done what the winds and lightning could not do, and the whole promise of the vintage, leaves and all, is gone, and the slender stems are left bare. There is another yard, less un- 15 common, but still tended with more than common care; each plant is kept within due bounds by a circular trench round it, and by upright canes on which it is to trail; in an hour . the solicitude and long toil of the vine-dresser are lost, and his pride humbled. There is a smiling farm; another sort 20 of vine, of remarkable character, is found against the farm-house. This vine springs from one root, and has clothed and matted with its many branches the four walls; the whole of it is covered thick with long clusters, which another month will ripen:—on every grape and leaf there is a locust. Into 25 the dry caves and pits, carefully strewed with straw, the harvest-men have (safely, as they thought just now) been lodging the far-famed African wheat. One grain or root shoots up into ten, twenty, fifty, eighty, nay, three or four hundred stalks: sometimes the stalks have two ears apiece, 30 and these again shoot into a number of lesser ones. These stores are intended for the Roman populace, but the locusts have been beforehand with them. The small patches of ground belonging to the poor peasants up and down the country, for raising the turnips, garlic, barley, water-melons, 35

on which they live, are the prey of these glutton invaders as much as the choicest vines and olives. Nor have they any reverence for the villa of the civic decurion or the Roman official. The neatly-arranged kitchen-garden, with its cherries, plums, peaches, and apricots, is a waste ; as the slaves sit 5 round, in the kitchen in the first court, at their coarse evening meal, the room is filled with the invading force, and news comes to them that the enemy has fallen upon the apples and pears in the basement, and is at the same time plundering and sacking the preserves of quince and pome-10 granate, and revelling in the jars of precious oil of Cyprus and Mendes in the store-rooms.

They come up to the walls of Sicca, and are flung against them into the ditch. Not a moment's hesitation or delay ; they recover their footing, they climb up the wood or stucco, 15 they surmount the parapet, or they have entered in at the windows, filling the apartments, and the most private and luxurious chambers, not one or two, like stragglers at forage or rioters after a victory, but in order of battle, and with the array of an army. Choice plants or flowers about the *im-20 pluvia* and *xysti*, for ornament or refreshment, myrtles, oranges, pomegranates, the rose and the carnation, have disappeared. They dim the bright marbles of the walls and the gilding of the ceilings. They enter the triclinium in the midst of the banquet ; they crawl over the viands and spoil 25 what they do not devour. Unrelaxed by success and by enjoyment, onward they go ; a secret mysterious instinct keeps them together, as if they had a king over them. They move along the floor in so strange an order that they seem to be a tessellated pavement themselves, and to be the artificial em-30 bellishment of the place ; so true are their lines, and so perfect is the pattern they describe. Onward they go, to the market, to the temple sacrifices, to the baker's stores, to the cookshops, to the confectioner's, to the druggists ; nothing comes amiss to them ; wherever man has aught to eat or 35

drink, there are they, reckless of death, strong of appetite certain of conquest.

They have passed on ; the men of Sicca sadly congratulate themselves, and begin to look about them, and to sum up their losses. Being the proprietors of the neighbouring districts, or the purchasers of its produce, they lament over the devastation, not because the fair country is disfigured, but because income is becoming scanty, and prices are becoming high. How is a population of many thousands to be fed ? where is the grain, where the melons, the figs, the dates, the 10 gourds, the beans, the grapes, to sustain and solace the multitudes in their lanes, caverns, and garrets ? This is another weighty consideration for the class well-to-do in the world. The taxes, too, and contributions, the capitation tax, the percentage upon corn, the various articles of revenues due to 15 Rome, how are they to be paid ? How are cattle to be provided for the sacrifices and for the tables of the wealthy ? One-half, at least, of the supply of Sicca is cut off. No longer slaves are seen coming into the city from the country in troops with their baskets on their shoulders, or beating 20 forward the horse, or mule, or ox, overladen with its burden, or driving in the dangerous cow, or the unresisting sheep. The animation of the place is gone ; a gloom hangs over the Forum ; and if its frequenters are still merry there is something of sullenness and recklessness in their mirth. The 25 gods have given the city up ; something or other has angered them. Locusts, indeed, are no uncommon visitation, but at an earlier season. Perhaps some temple has been polluted, or some unholy rite practised, or some secret conspiracy has spread.

Another and a still worse calamity. The invaders, as we have already intimated, could be more terrible still in their overthrow than in their ravages. The inhabitants of the country had attempted, where they could, to destroy them by fire and water. It would seem as if the malignant animals 30

had resolved that the sufferers should have the benefit of this policy to the full; for they had not got more than twenty miles beyond Sicca when they suddenly sickened and died. Thus after they had done all the mischief they could by their living, when they had made their foul maws the grave of 5 every living thing, then they died themselves, and made the desolated land their own grave. They took from it its hundred forms and varieties of beautiful life, and left it their own fetid and poisonous carcases in payment. It was a sudden catastrophe; they seemed making for the Mediterranean, as 10 if, like other great conquerors, they had other worlds to subdue beyond it; but whether they were overgorged, or struck by some atmospheric change, or that their time was come and they paid the debt of nature, so it was that suddenly they fell, and their glory came to nought, and all was vanity to 15 them as to others, and "their stench rose up, and their corruption rose up, because they had done proudly."

The hideous swarms lay dead in the moist steaming underwoods, in the green swamps, in the sheltered valleys, in the ditches and furrows of the fields, amid the monuments of 20 their own prowess, the ruined crops and the dishonoured vineyards. A poisonous element, issuing from their remains, mingled with the atmosphere, and corrupted it. The dismayed peasant found that a pestilence had begun; a new visitation, not confined to the territory which the enemy had 25 made its own, but extending far and wide, as the atmosphere extends, in all directions. Their daily toil, no longer claimed by the produce of the earth, which has ceased to exist, is now devoted to the object of ridding themselves of the deadly legacy which they have received in its stead. In vain; it is 30 their last toil; they are digging pits, they are raising piles, for their own corpses, as well as for the bodies of their enemies. Invader and victim lie in the same grave, burn in the same heap; they sicken while they work, and the pestilence spreads. A new invasion is menacing Sicca, in the 35

shape of companies of peasants and slaves, (the panic having broken the bonds of discipline,) with their employers and overseers, nay the farmers themselves and proprietors, rushing thither from famine and infection as to a place of safety. The inhabitants of the city are as frightened as they, 5 and more energetic. They determine to keep them at a distance ; the gates are closed ; a strict *cordon* is drawn ; however, by the continued pressure, numbers contrive to make an entrance, as water into a vessel, or light through the closed shutters, and anyhow the air cannot be put into quarantine ; 10 so the pestilence has the better of it, and at last appears in the alleys, and in the cellars of Sicca.

(b) *THE POSSESSION OF JUBA.*

IN an instant up he started again with a great cry, and began running at the top of his speed. He thought he heard a voice speaking in him ; and, however fast he ran, the voice, or whatever it was, kept up with him. He rushed through the underwood, trampling and crushing it under his feet, and 5 scaring the birds and small game which lodged there. At last, exhausted, he stood still for breath, when he heard it say loudly and deeply, as if speaking with his own organs, “ You cannot escape from yourself ! ” Then a terror seized him ; he fell down and fainted away. 10

When his senses returned, his first impression was of something in him not himself. He felt it in his breathing ; he tasted it in his mouth. The brook which ran by Gurta’s encampment had by this time become a streamlet, though still shallow. He plunged into it ; a feeling came upon him as if 15 he ought to drown himself, had it been deeper. He rolled about in it, in spite of its flinty and rocky bed. When he came out of it, his tunic sticking to him, he tore it off his shoulders, and let it hang round his girdle in shreds, as it might. The shock of the water, however, acted as a sedative 20 upon him, and the coolness of the night refreshed him. He walked on for a while in silence.

Suddenly the power within him began uttering, by means of his organs of speech, the most fearful blasphemies, words embodying conceptions which, had they come into his mind, 25 he might indeed have borne with patience before this, or uttered in bravado, but which now filled him with inexpress-

sible loathing, and a terror to which he had hitherto been quite a stranger. He had always in his heart believed in a God, but he now believed with a reality and intensity utterly new to him. He felt it as if he saw Him; he felt there was a world of good and evil beings. He did not love the good, 5 or hate the evil; but he shrank from the one, and he was terrified at the other; and he felt himself carried away, against his will, as the prey of some dreadful, mysterious power, which tyrannised over him.

The day had closed—the moon had risen. He plunged 10 into the thickest wood, and the trees seemed to him to make way for him. Still they seemed to moan and to creak as they moved out of their place. Soon he began to see that they were looking at him, and exulting over his misery. They, of an inferior nature, had had no gift which they could abuse 15 and lose; and they remained in that honour and perfection in which they were created. Birds of the night flew out of them, reptiles slunk away; yet soon he began to be surrounded, wherever he went, by a circle of owls, bats, ravens, crows, snakes, wild cats, and apes, which were always looking 20 at him, but somehow made way, retreating before him, and yet forming again, and in order, as he marched along.

He had passed through the wing of the forest which he had entered, and penetrated into the more mountainous country. He ascended the heights; he was a taller, stronger man than 25 he had been; he went forward with a preternatural vigour, and flourished his arms with the excitement of some vinous or gaseous intoxication. He heard the roar of the wild beasts echoed along the woody ravines which were cut into the solid mountain rock, with a reckless feeling, as if he could 30 cope with them. As he passed the dens of the lion, leopard, hyena, jackal, wild boar, and wolf, there he saw them sitting at the entrance, or stopping suddenly as they prowled along, and eyeing him, but not daring to approach. He strode along from rock to rock, and over precipices, with the cer- 35

tainty and ease of some giant in Eastern fable. Suddenly a beast of prey came across him ; in a moment he had torn up by the roots the stump of a wild vine plant, which was near him ; had thrown himself upon his foe before it could act on the aggressive, had flung it upon its back, forced the weapon 5 into its mouth, and was stamping on its chest. He knocked the life out of the furious animal ; and crying "Take that," tore its flesh, and, applying his mouth to the wound, sucked a draught of its blood.

He has passed over the mountain, and has descended its 10 side. Bristling shrubs, swamps, precipitous banks, rushing torrents, are no obstacle to his course. He has reached the brow of a hill, with a deep placid river at the foot of it, just as the dawn begins to break. It is a lovely prospect, which every step he takes is becoming more definite and more vari- 15 ous in the daylight. Masses of oleander, of great beauty, with their red blossoms, fringed the river, and tracked out its course into the distance. The bank of the hill below him, and on the right and left, was a maze of fruit-trees, about which nature, if it were not the hand of man, had had no 20 thought except that they should be all together there. The wild olive, the pomegranate, the citron, the date, the mulberry, the peach, the apple; and the walnut, formed a sort of spontaneous orchard. Across the water, groves of palm-trees 25 waved their long and graceful branches in the morning breeze. The stately and solemn ilex, marshalled into long avenues, showed the way to substantial granges or luxurious villas. The green turf or grass was spread out beneath, and here and there flocks and herds were emerging out of the twilight, and growing distinct upon the eye. Elsewhere the ground rose 30 up into sudden eminences crowned with chestnut woods, or with plantations of cedar and acacia, or wildernesses of the cork-tree, the turpentine, the carooba, the white poplar, and the Phenician juniper, while overhead ascended the clinging tendrils of the hop, and an underwood of myrtle clothed their 35

stems and roots. A profusion of wild flowers carpeted the ground far and near.

Juba stood and gazed till the sun rose opposite to him, envying, repining, hating, like Satan looking in upon Paradise. The wild mountains, or the locust-smitten track would have better suited the tumult of his mind. It would have been a relief to him to have retreated from so fair a scene, and to have retraced his steps, but he was not his own master, and was hurried on. Sorely against his determined strong resolve and will, crying out and protesting and shuddering, the youth was forced along into the fulness of beauty and blessing with which he was so little in tune. With rage and terror he recognised that he had no part in his own movements, but was a mere slave. In spite of himself he must go forward and behold a peace and sweetness which witnessed against him. He dashed down through the thick grass, plunged into the water, and without rest or respite began a second course of aimless toil and travail through the day.

The savage dogs of the villages howled and fled from him as he passed by; beasts of burden, on their way to market, which he overtook or met, stood still, foamed and trembled; the bright birds, the blue jay and golden oriole, hid themselves under the leaves and grass; the storks, a religious and domestic bird, stopped their sharp clattering note from the high tree or farmhouse turret, where they had placed their nests; the very reptiles skulked away from his shadow, as if it were poisonous. The boors who were at their labour in the fields suspended it, to look at one whom the Furies were lashing and whirling on. Hour passed after hour, the sun attained its zenith, and then declined, but this dreadful compulsory race continued. Oh, what would he have given for one five minutes of oblivion, of slumber, of relief from the burning thirst which now consumed him! but the master within him ruled his muscles and his joints, and the intense pain of weariness had no concomitant prostration of strength.

Suddenly he began to laugh hideously ; and he went forward dancing and singing aloud, and playing antics. He entered a hovel, made faces at the children, till one of them fell into convulsions, and he ran away with another ; and when some country people pursued him, he flung the child in their faces, 5 saying, "Take that," and said he was Pentheus, king of Thebes, of whom he had never heard, about to solemnise the orgies of Bacchus, and he began to spout a chorus of Greek, a language he had never learnt or heard spoken.

Now it is evening again, and he has come up to a village 10 grove, where the rustics were holding a feast in honour of Pan. The hideous brutal god, with yawning mouth, horned head, and goat's feet, was placed in a rude shed, and a slaughtered lamb, decked with flowers, lay at his feet. The peasants were frisking before him, boys and women, when 15 they were startled by the sight of a gaunt, wild, mysterious figure, which began to dance too. He flung and capered about with such vigour that they ceased their sport to look on, half with awe and half as a diversion. Suddenly he began to groan and to shriek, as if contending with himself, 20 and willing and not willing some new act ; and the struggle ended in his falling on his hands and knees, and crawling like a quadruped towards the idol. When he got near, his attitude was still more servile ; still groaning and shuddering, he laid himself flat on the ground, and wriggled to the idol 25 as a worm, and lapped up with his tongue the mingled blood and dust which lay about the sacrifice. And then again, as if nature had successfully asserted her own dignity, he jumped up high in the air, and, falling on the god, broke him to pieces, and scampered away out of pursuit, before the lookers-on 30 recovered from their surprise.

Another restless, fearful night amid the open country ; . . . but it seemed as if the worst had passed, and, though still under the heavy chastisement of his pride, there was now more in Juba of human action and of effectual will. The day 35

broke, and he found himself on the road to Sicca. The beautiful outline of the city was right before him. He passed his brother's cottage and garden ; it was a wreck. The trees torn up, the fences broken down, and the room pillaged of the little that could be found there. He went on to the city, crying 5 out "Agellius" ; the gate was open, and he entered. He went on to the Forum ; he crossed to the house of Jucundus ; few people as yet were stirring in the place. He looked up at the wall. Suddenly, by the help of projections, and other irregularities of the brickwork, he mounted up upon the flat 10 roof, and dropped down along the tiles, through the *impluvium* into the middle of the house. He went softly into Agellius's closet, where he was asleep, he roused him with the name of Callista, threw his tunic upon him, which was by his side, put his boots into his hands, and silently beckoned him to follow 15 him. When he hesitated, he still whispered to him "Callista," and at length seized him and led him on. He unbarred the street door, and with a movement of his arm, more like a blow than a farewell, thrust him into the street. Then he barred again the door upon him, and lay down himself upon the bed 20 which Agellius had left. His good Angel, we may suppose, had gained a point in his favour, for he lay quiet, and fell into a heavy sleep.

## JUDAISM.

(*A Tragic Chorus.*)

O PITEOUS race !  
Fearful to look upon,  
Once standing in high place,  
Heaven's eldest son.  
O aged, blind,  
Unvenerable ! as thou flittest by,  
I liken thee to him in pagan song,  
In thy gaunt majesty,  
The vagrant King, of haughty-purposed mind,  
Whom prayer nor plague could bend ;<sup>1</sup>  
Wrong'd, at the cost of him who did the wrong,  
Accursed himself, but in his cursing strong,  
And honour'd in his end.

O Abraham ! sire,  
Shamed in thy progeny ;  
Who to thy faith aspire,  
Thy Hope deny.  
Well wast thou given  
From out the heathen an adopted heir  
Raised strangely from the dead when sin had slain  
Thy former-cherish'd care.

<sup>1</sup> Vide the *Œdipus Coloneus* of Sophocles.

O holy men, ye first-wrought gems of heaven  
    Polluted in your kin,  
Come to our fonts, your lustre to regain.  
O Holiest Lord! . . . but Thou canst take no stain  
    Of blood, or taint of sin.

Twice in their day  
Proffer of precious cost  
Was made, Heaven's hand to stay  
Ere all was lost.  
The first prevail'd;

Moses was outcast from the promised home,  
For his own sin, yet taken at his prayer

To change his people's doom.  
Close on their eve, one other ask'd and fail'd;

When fervent Paul was fain  
The accurséd tree, as Christ had borne, to bear,  
No hopeful answer came,—a Price more rare  
    Already shed in vain.

10

15

### *Marseilles Harbour.*

June 27, 1833.

## THE ELEMENTS.

(*A Tragic Chorus.*)

MAN is permitted much  
To scan and learn  
In Nature's frame ;  
Till he well-nigh can tame  
Brute mischiefs and can touch  
Invisible things, and turn  
All warring ills to purposes of good.  
Thus, as a god below,  
He can control,  
And harmonize, what seems amiss to flow  
As sever'd from the whole  
And dimly understood.

But o'er the elements  
One Hand alone,  
One Hand has sway,  
What influence day by day  
In straiter belt prevents  
The impious Ocean, thrown  
Alternate o'er the ever-sounding shore ?  
Or who has eye to trace  
How the Plague came ?  
Forerun the doublings of the Tempest's race ?  
Or the Air's weight and flame  
On a set scale explore ?

Thus God has will'd  
That man, when fully skill'd,  
Still gropes in twilight dim  
Encompass'd all his hours

By fearfullest powers  
Inflexible to him.

That so he may discern  
His feebleness.  
And e'en for earth's success  
To Him in wisdom turn,  
Who holds for us the keys of either home,  
Earth and the world to come.

5

19

*At Sea.**June 25, 1833.*

## A THANKSGIVING.

Thou in faithfulness has afflicted me."

LORD, in this dust Thy sovereign voice  
First quicken'd love divine ;  
I am all Thine,—Thy care and choice,  
My very praise is Thine.

I praise Thee, while Thy providence  
In childhood frail I trace,  
For blessings given, ere dawning sense  
Could seek or scan Thy grace ;

Blessings in boyhood's marvelling hour,  
Bright dreams, and fancyings strange ;  
Blessings, when reason's awful power  
Gave thought a bolder range ;

Blessings of friends, which to my door  
Unask'd, unhop'd, have come ;  
And, choicer still, a countless store  
Of eager smiles at home.

Yet, Lord, in memory's fondest place  
I shrine those seasons sad,  
When, looking up, I saw Thy face  
In kind austereness clad.

I would not miss one sigh or tear,  
Heart-pang, or throbbing brow ;  
Sweet was the chastisement severe,  
And sweet its memory now.

Yes ! let the fragrant scars abide,  
Love-tokens in Thy stead,  
Faint shadows of the spear-pierced side  
And thorn-encompass'd head.

And such Thy tender force be still,                       5  
When self would swerve or stray,  
Shaping to truth the foward will  
Along Thy narrow way.

Deny me wealth ; far, far remove  
The lure of power or name ;                       10  
Hope thrives in straits, in weakness love,  
And faith in this world's shame.

*ford.*

*October 20, 1829.*

## WAITING FOR THE MORNING.

“ Quoddam quasi pratum, in quo animæ nihil patiebantur, sed  
manebant, nondum idoneæ Visioni Beatæ.” *Beda Hist. v.*<sup>1</sup>

THEY are at rest :

We may not stir the heaven of their repose  
With loud-voiced grief, or passionate request,  
    Or selfish plaint for those  
Who in the mountain grotts of Eden lie,  
And hear the fourfold river, as it hurries by.

They hear it sweep  
In distance down the dark and savage vale ;  
But they at eddying pool or current deep  
    Shall never more grow pale ;  
They hear, and meekly muse, as fain to know  
How long untired, unspent, that giant stream shall flow.

And soothing sounds  
Blend with the neighbouring waters as they glide.  
Posted along the haunted garden’s bounds  
    Angelic forms abide,  
Echoing, as words of watch, o’er lawn and grove,  
The verses of that hymn which Seraphs chant above.

Oxford.

1835.

<sup>1</sup> “ Like a meadow in which souls free from pain were detained, being as yet unworthy of the Beatific Vision.”

## THE PILLAR OF THE CLOUD.

LEAD, Kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom  
Lead Thou me on !  
The night is dark, and I am far from home—  
Lead Thou me on !  
Keep Thou my feet ; I do not ask to see  
The distant scene—one step enough for me.

5

I was not ever thus, nor pray'd that Thou  
Shouldst lead me on.

I loved to choose and see my path, but now  
Lead Thou me on !

10

I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,  
Pride ruled my will : remember not past years.

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still  
Will lead me on,

O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till  
The night is gone ;

15

And with the morn those angel faces smile  
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.

*At Sea.*

*June 16, 1833.*

## THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS.

ANGEL.

WHEN then—if such thy lot—thou seest thy Judge,  
The sight of Him will kindle in thy heart,  
All tender, gracious, reverential thoughts.  
Thou wilt be sick with love, and yearn for Him,  
And feel as though thou couldst but pity Him,  
That one so sweet should e'er have placed Himself  
At disadvantage such, as to be used  
So vilely by a being so vile as thee.  
There is a pleading in His pensive eyes  
Will pierce thee to the quick, and trouble thee.  
And thou wilt hate and loathe thyself ; for, though  
Now sinless, thou wilt feel that thou hast sinned,  
As never thou didst feel ; and wilt desire  
To slink away, and hide thee from His sight  
And yet wilt have a longing aye to dwell  
Within the beauty of His countenance.  
And these two pains, so counter and so keen,—  
The longing for Him, when thou seest Him not ;  
The shame of self at thought of seeing Him,—  
Will be thy veriest, sharpest purgatory.

5

10

15

20

. . . . Praise to His Name !  
The eager spirit has darted from my hold,  
And, with the intemperate energy of love,  
Flies to the dear feet of Emmanuel ;

But, ere it reach them, the keen sanctity,  
 Which with its effluence, like a glory, clothes  
 And circles round the Crucified, has seized,  
 And scorched, and shrivelled it; and now it lies  
 Passive and still before the awful Throne.  
 O happy, suffering soul! for it is safe,  
 Consumed, yet quickened, by the glance of God.

5

## SOUL.

Take me away, and in the lowest deep  
 There let me be,  
 And there in hope the lone night-watches keep,      10  
 Told out for me.  
 There, motionless and happy in my pain,  
 Lone, not forlorn,—  
 There will I sing my sad perpetual strain,  
 Until the morn.      15  
 There will I sing, and soothe my stricken breast,  
 Which ne'er can cease  
 To throb, and pine, and languish, till possest  
 Of its Sole Peace.  
 There will I sing my absent Lord and Love:—  
 Take me away,      20  
 That sooner I may rise, and go above,  
 And see Him in the truth of everlasting day.

15

•

20

## ANGEL.

Now let the golden prison ope its gates,  
 Making sweet music, as each fold revolves      25  
 Upon its ready hinge. And ye great powers,  
 Angels of Purgatory, receive from me  
 My charge, a precious soul, until the day,  
 When, from all bond and forfeiture released,  
 I shall reclaim it for the courts of light.      30

## NOTES.

### KNOWLEDGE ITS OWN END.

This was the fourth of a series of discourses given by Newman in Dublin in 1842. His purpose was to prove that in a university Knowledge and enlargement of the mind are contemplated as an ultimate object. In our own day when the spirit of utilitarianism is even more widely spread, and when Knowledge is looked upon by many merely as a means to material advancement, Newman's lofty ideals are stimulating and inspiring both to teachers and taught.

P. 12, l. 27. **Butler's Analogy of Religion.** Butler, Joseph (1692-1752), appointed to see of Bristol in 1738, presented to deanery of St. Paul's in 1740, and translated to see of Durham in 1750. His great masterpiece is *The Analogy of Religion, Natural and Revealed to the Constitution and Course of Nature*, a work at once clear, simple, and profound. Newman writes thus: "It was about this date (1823), I suppose, that I read Bishop Butler's *Analogy*, the study of which has been to so many, as it was to me, an era in their religious opinions. Its inculcation of a visible Church, the oracle of truth, and a pattern of sanctity, of the duties of external religion, and of the historical character of Revelation are characteristics of this great work which strike the reader at once." (*Apologia*.) Yet to J. Mill, Martineau, Pitt, and others the *Analogy* "appeared to operate only in the direction of infidelity".

P. 12, l. 29. **Pitt, William**, commonly styled *the Younger*, second son of the great Earl of Chatham (1759-1806), great statesman and orator.

P. 12, l. 31. **Watson, Bishop of Llandaff** (1737-1816). Professor of Chemistry, and afterwards Professor of Divinity at Cambridge. Appointed to see of Llandaff in 1782. The defence of Revealed Religion was his frequent topic both in the press and in the pulpit. His most popular work was his *Apology for the Bible*.

P. 13, l. 1. **Arcesilas**. A philosopher of Pitane in Asia Minor, and founder of the *Middle Academy*, as Socrates founded the *Ancient*, and Carneades the *New*. He pretended to know nothing. Arcesilas lived in splendour and elegance for he was both wealthy and fastidious.

(Died 241 B.C. probably.) It has been said of him that *Argument was the breath of his nostrils.*

P. 13, l. 2. Aristotle. One of the greatest of the Greek philosophers. He wrote on logic, rhetoric, poetry, politics, ethics, physics, mathematics, and metaphysics, and in each he displayed remarkable genius. Perhaps Newman's reference to Arcesilas and Aristotle may be best appreciated by the following : " In logic their (the Peripatetics) teachings include the rules of rhetoric as well as of dialectic ; and Aristotle their founder set afoot the practice of arguing pro and contra upon every topic not, like Arcesilas, always controverting every proposition but setting out all the arguments on either side in every subject." (See Cicero, *De Finibus*, v. 10.)

P. 13, l. 2. nor Aristotle have criticized poets as Plato. Plato (429-347 B.C.), head of the school of philosophy known as the *Academicians*. In his *Republic* Plato considers poetry from the ethical point of view. Whilst he sanctions the proper use of nursery myths and poetry in the *didascaleum*, he disapproves dramatic poetry as being mere fiction, and, indeed, condemns the Homeric poems, and most of the early Greek poetry as having an immoral influence, and teaching erroneous ideas concerning the gods. Aristotle takes a much broader view of poetry. He criticises it as an art, to which morality is, to a great extent, irrelevant, and as a science in so far that its rules may be formulated in scientific form.

P. 15, l. 16. " The Pursuit of Knowledge under difficulties " by George Lillie Craik (1798-1866), whose works were distinguished by careful and accurate research. This book was published in two volumes in 1830. There were several later editions, and a supplementary volume of *Female Examples* appeared in 1847.

P. 15, l. 31. Cicero, Marcus Tullius (106-43 B.C.), a learned philosopher and the greatest of Roman orators. Newman here quotes from his *De Officiis*.

P. 17, l. 2. to those who live after the rise of the Baconian philosophy. That system, or, more truly, *method* of philosophy which takes its name from Francis Bacon (1561-1626), Lord Verulam, Viscount St. Albans, statesman, philosopher, and man of letters. Author of *The Advancement of Learning*, intended to be an introduction to his great work, *The Instauratio Magna*, which he planned, but did not finish, the famous *Essays*, *The New Atlantis*, etc. Bacon is hailed by many as the father of modern science, though it would be hard to prove that his methods contributed anything to its actual discoveries ; indeed as a pioneer the claims of his namesake, the great Franciscan, Roger Bacon, stand much higher. It is to Francis Bacon's credit, however, that he had an open and alert mind regarding the facts of Nature. He is also hailed by others as the father of modern induction, though the method he preferred under that name is but a confused mixture of the older method of enumerative induction and the newer method of analysis. The following from the *Novum Organum* illustrates Newman's allusion :

"Of all signs there is none more certain or more noble than that taken from fruits. For fruits and works are as it were sponsors and sureties for the truth of philosophies. Now from all these systems of the Greeks, and their ramifications through particular sciences, there can hardly, after the lapse of so many years, be adduced a single experiment which tends to relieve and benefit the condition of man, and which can with truth be referred to the speculations and theories of philosophy."

P. 17, l. 17. the elder Cato. M. Porcius Cato, one of the most celebrated figures in the history of ancient Rome. During his exercise of the censorship he showed great impartiality, and demanded from others that rigorous simplicity and probity which were so markedly characteristic of his own life. Like all his countrymen he judged everything by its practical value. Died about 150 B.C.

P. 17, l. 18. Carneades and his companions. Carneades, a philosopher of Cyrene in Africa, Diogenes, his master, and Critolaus were sent on an embassy to Rome (155 B.C.). The eloquence of their philosophical discourses so strongly attracted the youth of Rome that Cato, fearing lest they should be seduced from their profession of arms, gave the ambassadors immediate audience in the Senate, and dismissed them in all haste. Carneades was the founder of the *Third or New Academy*. He denied that anything could be perceived or understood in this world.

P. 18, l. 9. the arts of which the poet speaks. The allusion here is to the words of the Greek tragic poet, Agathon, quoted by Aristotle, *Nic. Ethic.* vi.: "Art loves Fortune, and is beloved by her".

P. 18, l. 29. such, for instance, was the palæstra. Literally a place for wrestling. At Athens there were a considerable number of palestre quite distinct from the gymnasia. They seem to have been set apart for the exercises of wrestling and boxing (*pancratium*) which from the violent exertion they demanded were not much practised in the gymnasia.

P. 18, l. 30. the Olympic games. So called either from Olympia, where they were held, or from Jupiter Olympius to whom they were dedicated. The general opinion is that they were instituted by Heracles in honour of Jupiter Olympius, after a victory over Augias (1222 B.C.). They included trials of skill in running, leaping, throwing the quoit, and wrestling; horse and chariot races, and competitions in poetry, rhetoric, and the fine arts. They were held in the first month of every fifth year, and continued for five days.

P. 18, l. 31. Xenophon. Famous Athenian general, philosopher, and historian. Author of *Life of Cyrus the Great*, and the *Anabasis* which narrates the history of the expedition of Cyrus the Younger. Xenophon conducted the famous retreat of 10,000 Greeks from Cunaxa to Chrysopolis during the Persian War (480-359 B.C.).

P. 19, l. 26. the learned professions. Medicine, Law, the Church.

P. 20, l. 12. the Baconian philosophy. (See note on p. 17.)

P. 21, l. 27. **Lycurgus.** Celebrated law-giver of Sparta. He established a senate, divided the land among the members of the commonwealth, banished luxury, and encouraged the useful arts. The aim of Spartan training was not the perfect athlete nor the man of finely-developed and graceful physique, but the brave, self-controlled, fearless, resourceful soldier. Consequently the gymnasium was not countenanced in Sparta, and the pancratium was tolerated merely because its exercises, *liberal* as they were judged to be, did harden the body.

P. 21, l. 28. **Seneca.** Philosopher, orator, and writer of numerous works chiefly on moral subjects. His *Epistles* are remarkable for their elegance of language and sublimity of thought. (See note on p. 29.) For Seneca's view of the *palæstra* see Ep. 88, l. 8: "luctatores et totam oleo ac luto constantem scientiam expello ex his studiis liberalibus." ("Wrestlers also, and the whole of that science which depends on oil and mud, I exclude from these liberal studies.")

P. 21, l. 29. **Elis.** In Peloponnesus. There was a famous temple here dedicated to Jupiter which boasted of a statue fifty cubits high, reckoned as one of the seven wonders of the world. The Olympic games were celebrated in the neighbourhood. (See note on p. 18.)

P. 21, l. 29. **Music . . . in the highest place with Plato and Aristotle.** Plato (429-347 B.C.), illustrious Greek philosopher, and disciple of Socrates. Head of the school of philosophy known as the *Academicians*. Aristotle (384-323 B.C.). One of the greatest of the Greek philosophers. (See note on p. 13.) Music with the Greeks at first included all the arts, and sciences over which the Muses presided. Both Plato and Aristotle gave Music an important place in their educational theories, holding it in high esteem not only as a means of developing power of appreciation and expression but also on account of its moral influence. Thus Plato writes: "Harmony is not regarded by him who intelligently uses the Muses as given by them with a view to irrational pleasure, but with a view to the inharmonical course of the soul, and as an ally for the purpose of reducing this into harmony and agreement with itself". And so also Aristotle: "Rhythm and melody supply imitations of anger and gentleness, and also of courage and temperance, and of virtues and vices in general, which hardly fall short of actual affections, as we know from our own experience, for in listening to such changes our souls undergo a change".

P. 23, l. 35. **enthymeme.** An argument in which one of the premises of the syllogism is suppressed; an incomplete simple syllogism, e.g. *All men are mortal, therefore I shall die*. Here the minor premise though not explicitly stated is implied.

P. 26, l. 25. **Did philosophy support Cicero?** Cicero the great Roman orator (106-43 B.C.). After the Catiline conspiracy he was hailed by the people as "The father of his country and a second founder of Rome," but the severity with which he had attacked Clodius caused his banishment from Rome. After a short absence he again returned and was received with universal satisfaction. Later he showed himself weak and irresolute, willing to follow Pompey yet afraid to oppose Cæsar. He

was assassinated by the emissaries of Antony whilst fleeing towards the sea of Caieta. Cicero, throughout a life of ever-varying fortune, was too easily elated by prosperity, and too easily dejected by adversity.

P. 26, l. 25. **Or nerve Seneca.** For four years Seneca acted in the capacity of preceptor to Nero, during which time he amassed great riches. He was accused, with apparently little justice, of conspiring with Piso against the tyrant, and Nero, actuated strongly by personal motives of jealousy and animosity, ordered him to destroy himself. (See note on p. 21.)

P. 26, l. 26. **It abandoned Brutus.** Marcus Junius Brutus (85-42 B.C.) took sides with Pompey during the civil war, but submitted to Cæsar after the battle of Pharsalia and was appointed Governor of Cisalpine Gaul. Later, influenced by Cassius he joined the conspiracy against Cæsar, and spoke in defence of his assassins. Defeated by Antony and Octavianus at Philippi (42 B.C.) he fell on his own sword. Asked by Cassius, before the battle, for his opinion concerning flight and death if victory failed them, he replied : "In the younger and less experienced part of my life I was led upon philosophical principles to condemn the conduct of Cato in killing himself. I thought it at once impious and unmanly to sink beneath the stroke of fortune, and to refuse the lot that had befallen me. In my present situation, however, I am of a different opinion, so that if heaven should now be unfortunate to our wishes I will no longer solicit my hopes or fortunes, but die contented with it such as it is." (*Plutarch.*)

P. 26, l. 28. **It forced Cato.** Marcus Cato, surnamed Uticensis, Stoic philosopher. When Scipio had been defeated, chiefly through not following Cato's advice, Cato fortified himself in Utica, not, it is said, with the intention of supporting a siege. On the approach of Cæsar, disdaining to die, and not wishing to fall into the conqueror's hands, he stabbed himself (46 B.C.). See Cicero's *Tusculan Disputations*, II. "Even Cato left this world, as pleased with an opportunity of dying; for that God who presides in us, forbids our departure hence without His leave." In his *De Finibus*, III. xviii., Cicero points out that the principles of the Stoic philosophy justify suicide under certain circumstances.

P. 26, l. 30. **Polemo.** A young Athenian, son of Philostratus. He was drawn from a life of extravagance and excess by hearing Xenocrates lecture on the evil effects of intemperance. From that hour he reformed his life and devoted himself to the study of philosophy. On the death of Xenocrates Polemo taught in the school where his conversion had been effected (died 270 B.C.).

P. 26, l. 31. **Anaxagoras.** Famous Athenian philosopher who numbered Socrates and Euripides among his pupils. Possessed of large estates in Asia Minor he renounced them all, and devoted his life to philosophy and meditation.

P. 26, l. 33. "**Rasselas.**" By Dr. Samuel Johnson, essayist and lexicographer (1709-1784). *Rasselas* was written by Johnson within a

week to defray the expenses of his mother's funeral. It professes to be the story of an Abyssinian prince, and describes his vain pursuit of earthly happiness. Though it lacks genuine local colour, it is written in Johnson's best style, and was translated into several languages.

P. 28, 1. 3. **the Philosophy of Utility.** Utilitarianism is a modern form of the Hedonistic ethical theory which holds that the end of human conduct is happiness, and that consequently the discriminating norm that distinguishes conduct into right or wrong is pleasure and pain. In connection with modern education the word *utilitarian* is applied to those theories or methods which have as their direct aim some material use or benefit. The tendency to adopt this utilitarian view of education is largely due to the influence of Herbert Spencer, loudly as he decried Utilitarianism.

P. 28, 1. 6. **Its Prophet.** Bacon was the *prophet* of the Philosophy of Utility inasmuch as by his furtherance of the inductive method he stimulated scientific research; also because throughout his works he emphasizes the theory that knowledge should tend to ameliorate the lot of humanity.

P. 28, 1. 8. **To be true to his friend, or faithful in his trust.** The references here are to the two charges which even Bacon's most able apologists have been unable to refute: (a) the fact that when his former generous friend and patron, Essex, was put upon his trial for treason Bacon not only took a prominent part in his prosecution, and this he might have declined to do, but even wrote a pamphlet afterwards justifying his execution, (b) his acceptance of bribes.

P. 28, 1. 11. **the meanest of mankind.** See Pope's *Essay on Man*, Ep. iv.:-

"If parts allure thee think how Bacon shined,  
The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind."

P. 28, 1. 14. **the Idols of the den or the theatre.** Bacon held that to arrive at a clear apprehension of the truth the mind must be cleared of four *phantoms*, or preoccupations, styled by him *idols*. *The idols of the tribe* (*idola tribus*) are those preoccupations inherent in human nature, and therefore common to the tribe or race. *The idols of the den* (*idola specus*) are those preoccupations peculiar to the individual either from his personal dispositions or from his circumstances. *The idols of the market-place* (*idola fori*) result from a confusion of words and things in the colloquial speech and intercourse of the market-place. Lastly, *the idols of the theatre* (*idola theatri*) consist of the received dogmas of peculiar systems of philosophy which prepossess the mind by reason of a presumed authority. The term *theatri* is used in connection with these because Bacon regarded all such previous systems as fictitious and unreal. (See *Novum Organum*, lxxxix.)

P. 28, 1. 15. **His mission was the increase of physical enjoyment.** According to Macaulay "the aim of the Platonic philosophy was to raise us far above our vulgar wants. The aim of the Baconian philosophy was to supply our vulgar wants." Macaulay's *Essay on Bacon* is,

perhaps, one of his least successful efforts, partly because of its many and lengthy digressions; partly, too, because his judgments are, even more than usually, partial and dogmatic.

P. 28, Note. *In principio*, etc. In the preface to his great work the *Instauratio Magna* Bacon writes: "In the beginning of our work we pour forth humble and ardent prayers to God the Father, God the Word, and God the Spirit, that, mindful of the miseries of man and of this pilgrimage of life in which we wear our few and evil days, they would vouchsafe to endow the family of man, through our hands, with these their new gifts. And, moreover, we humbly pray that human knowledge may not prejudice Divine truth; and that no incredulity and darkness with respect to the Divine mysteries may arise in our minds," etc.

P. 29, l. 3. *Like the old mediciner*. The incident occurs in Fouqué's *Unknown Patient*. Friedrich Fouqué (1777-1843), a disciple of the Brothers Schlegel, and one of the most industrious and popular representatives of the Romance School in Germany in the first half of last century. The high and chivalrous spirit which informed his work earned for him from Jean Paul Richter the title of "The Valiant". His most popular work is *Undine*.

P. 29, l. 18. *Socrates*. Celebrated Athenian philosopher, who presented a remarkable contrast to his contemporaries by the simplicity and frugality of his life. He endeavoured to effect social reform by recommending virtue, but his independence and strong personal influence gained him many enemies. Accused of corrupting youth, and of introducing innovations in religion he was condemned to die by poison (468-399 B.C.).

P. 29, l. 18. *Seneca*. (See note on p. 21.) Newman probably alludes to Seneca's servile flattery of Nero, and his tendency to avarice. Other and more serious charges brought against him by his enemies have failed to be substantiated.

P. 29, l. 25. *His is simply a Method*. Bacon popularized the inductive method of reasoning, but his method was incomplete, clumsy, and almost mechanical. His idea was that all advance in Science depended upon the systematic and wide examination of facts, and that all generalizations and all anticipations from mere reasoning must be set on one side till this examination is completed. He did not, however, sufficiently emphasize the useful part played by hypotheses in the generalization and grouping of facts and instances. What he actually did for Science was to indicate the path which enquirers should tread. Bacon in reality had no fixed philosophy. His method was almost wholly empiric.

P. 30, l. 29. *Liberal Education makes not the Christian*. Read in this connection *Portrait of a Gentleman*, p. 58. Though "Liberal Education," as Newman says, "viewed in itself, is simply the cultivation of

the intellect as such, and its object is nothing more or less than intellectual excellence," it must be borne in mind that the aim of narrow utilitarianism is material and therefore tends to weaken or starve the spiritual side of our nature, and, in many cases, to cramp and confine the intellectual powers by narrowing our circle of interest.

P. 32, l. 16. **Alexander**, surnamed the *Great*. Son of Philip of Macedon, and one of the greatest conquerors in history. In spite of many excesses he was candid, truthful, and courageous, bearing the hardships of camp and field with the humblest of his soldiers, and as a ruler showing much prudence, moderation, and insight. Died about 323 B.C.

P. 32, l. 16. **Cæsar, Julius**, the sweetness, dignity, and nobility of whose character led Shakespeare to acclaim him "the foremost man of all the world". Died 44 B.C.

P. 32, l. 16. **Scipio**, Publius Cornelius, surnamed Africanus from his brilliant victory over the Carthaginians. As a general he was second only to Hannibal, while his moral victories over his passions, and his innocence of life made him as illustrious as a man as he was as a soldier.

P. 32, l. 17. **Saladin** of Salaheddin, celebrated Sultan of Egypt and Syria, distinguished by his valour during the Crusades. He made great conquests in Syria, Arabia, Persia, and Mesopotamia. At surrender of Jerusalem, where he took Guy de Lusignan prisoner, he showed great generosity to the Christians. In 1189 Richard, Cœur de Lion, and Philip Augustus of France took Caesarea and Jaffa after a two years' siege, and advanced to within a short distance of Jerusalem. A truce was afterwards concluded between Saladin and the Christians (A.D. 1187-1192).

P. 33, l. 13. **We attain to heaven, etc.** Compare with Browning's

"Better have failed in the high aim, as I,  
Than vulgarly in the low aim succeed,—  
As, God be thanked! I do not."—(*The Inn Album.*)

#### WHAT IS A UNIVERSITY?

This and the following chapter are two of a series of articles which Newman contributed to the Dublin *Catholic University Gazette* in 1854. They were published in 1856 in a volume entitled *Office and Work of Universities*, and in 1872 they were included in the third volume of Newman's *Historical Sketches*, in which they appear under the more characteristic heading, *Rise and Progress of Universities*.

The student of Literature will find Carlyle's remarks on Universities in *The Hero as Man of Letters* an indication of the breadth of the difference between his outlook and that of Newman.

P. 34, l. 27. *litera scripta*, the written word.

P. 35, l. 12. **The Sibyl.** In Greek mythology there were certain women supposed to be inspired by the gods with the gift of prophecy; they were called Sibyllæ. The most celebrated was the Cumæn Sibyl, who instructed Æneas how to find his father in the infernal regions. She wrote her prophecies on leaves which she placed at the entrance of her cave.

P. 39, l. 11. **the British Association.** Founded in 1831 for the advancement of Science. Sir David Brewster, Sir John Herschel and Mr. Charles Babbage were mainly responsible for its organisation.

P. 40, l. 30. **the University of Paris.** Founded in 1208, according to a bull of Pope Innocent III. It originated in the famous schools of Notre Dame, Sainte-Geneviève, and Saint-Victor. It was suppressed in 1793.

P. 41, l. 2. **the University of Bologna.** A development of the *Schools of the Liberal Arts* which flourished early in the eleventh century. The commercial and intellectual growth of the Lombard cities created a demand for instruction in jurisprudence, and students flocked to Bologna, for this purpose, from all parts.

P. 41, l. 2. **the University of Salamanca** had its origin in the Cathedral School, which was under the direction of a "magister scholarum," or chancellor. It was made a royal foundation by Alfonso IX. in 1230, and was for many centuries "the glory of Spain."

P. 42, l. 10. **Saint Irenæus.** See note on page 191.

P. 42, l. 15. **the great Saint Antony**, generally considered to be the founder and father of Christian monasticism, was born about the middle of the third century, and died at age of 105, according to St. Jerome, about the year 356. In his *Historical Sketches* Newman writes of St. Antony : "His doctrine surely was pure and unimpeachable; his temper high and heavenly, without cowardice, without gloom, without formality, without self-complacency."

P. 42, l. 17. **Didymus.** (About 310-398.) One of the principal opponents of Arianism. He lost his sight in childhood, but his spiritual insight was so marvellous that St. Jerome styled him "The Seer."

P. 42, l. 19. **Disciplina Arcani.** "The Discipline of the Secret." A theological term used to express the custom that prevailed in the early Church of guarding the knowledge of the more intimate mysteries of the Catholic Faith from the heathen, and from those who were not as yet fully instructed.

#### THE SITE OF A UNIVERSITY.

P. 44, l. 23. **Pisistratus**, tyrant of Athens, and a descendant of Codrus. After an exile of thirteen years he made himself master of Marathon, and, taking Athens by surprise, he put to death all the friends of his former enemy, Megacles. He built an academy which he furnished with a fine library, and made the first collection of Homer's poems. Died 527 b.c.

P. 44, l. 24. **Cimon.** Athenian general and the son of Miltiades. He distinguished himself during the Persian War, and died while besieging the town of Citium in Cyprus, 449 b.c. Cimon fortified Athens, em-

bellished it with the spoils of war, and was as remarkable for his liberality as for his valour.

P. 45, l. 16. **the Agora.** The place used among the ancient Greeks as a public market, corresponding generally with the Roman forum. In the best days of Greece, the Agora was the spot where nearly all public traffic was conducted. The name is sometimes applied to the assemblies of the people in the Grecian states.

P. 45, l. 21. **Pericles.** Celebrated Athenian general, statesman, and orator. Possessed of great personal influence, he induced the Athenians to alter their government; and, after causing Cimon and his other rivals to be banished, he constituted himself sole master of Athens. Pericles was a great patron of Art and Letters. Died 429 B.C.

P. 45, l. 22. **Plutarch.** Celebrated Greek biographer and moralist. The most celebrated of his many works are his *Lives of Illustrious Men*, which show great impartiality, keen insight, and strong detestation of crime and tyranny. Born about 48 A.D.

P. 45, l. 25. **Phidias**, a sculptor of Athens, and one of the most famous artists of antiquity. His colossal statue of Jupiter Olympus was deemed one of the wonders of the world. Died about 432 B.C.

P. 45, l. 25. **Anaxagoras**, an illustrious Athenian philosopher. Both Euripides and Pericles were his pupils. Died 428 B.C.

P. 45, l. 35. **Mithridates**, the sixth and greatest of that name, was King of Pontus, and a most determined enemy of the Romans. Anxious to weaken his power they declared war against him, and, in revenge, he ordered all the Romans in his dominions to be massacred. Later, he was forced to sue for peace with Pompey, who insisted upon his surrendering in person. Rather than submit to this, Mithridates died by his own hand. 63 B.C.

P. 50, l. 22. **King Louis.** On the death of Philip Augustus in 1223, his son, Louis VIII., ascended the throne. He was succeeded three years later by Louis IX. commonly styled "St. Louis of France," whose long reign lasted till 1270.

P. 50, l. 29. **Montmartre.** Before the ninth century there were two churches here; one half-way up the hill on the traditional site of the martyrdom of St. Denis, and another on the summit, which replaced the ancient temple of Mars. In 1095 these two churches passed into the hands of the monks of St. Martin, and in 1134 they became the property of the Benedictines. A magnificent modern basilica now crowns the hill.

P. 50, l. 32. **Alcuin**, a pupil of Venerable Bede, and afterwards Abbot of Canterbury. In 793, at the request of Charlemagne, he went to France. Alcuin was the most accomplished and learned man of his age, and a famous public teacher. He did much to restore the study of Science and Literature. Died at Tours 804 A.D.

P. 50, l. 34. **St. Germain-des-Prés.** This famous abbey was originally founded by Childebert in the sixth century, in honour of St. Vincent, at the instance of St. Germain. In the twelfth century Alexander III. made it directly dependent on the Holy See, and granted the abbot many prerogatives. In time the Abbey became the centre of a *bouyg*.

P. 51, l. 10. **Proctor of the German "nation".** In the latter half of the twelfth century the University of Paris divided its students according to their nationality. In 1249 there were four "nations," French, English, Normans, and Picards. After the Hundred Years' War the English "nation" was replaced by the Germanic or German. The "nations" were distinctively student associations formed for purposes of administration and discipline.

P. 51, l. 24. **Lipsius, Justus** (1547-1606), a learned critic. He studied civil law at Louvain, and became, later, professor of history at Leyden.

P. 52, l. 5. **Salvete Athenæ nostræ, etc.** "Hail to thee, our Belgian Athens. Thou art the envy of the students of Gaul, Germany, Sarmatia, Britain, and the two Spains."

P. 52, l. 15. **Antony-a-Wood** (1632-1695), eminent English antiquary and biographer. He was educated at Oxford, and completed his history of that University in 1669. He was also the author of *Athenæ Oxoniensis*, a collection of lives of writers and bishops educated at Oxford.

P. 52, l. 18. **Academæ.** The academy where Plato taught his disciples.

P. 53, l. 14. **Saint Edmund Rich** (1180-1240). Educated at universities of Oxford and Paris, in both of which he taught with distinction. He occupied the See of Canterbury for some years, but, unable to induce Henry III. to abandon his unjust measures against the Church, he retired to the seclusion of the Cistercian abbey of Pontigny. Austere in his own life, he was remarkable for his mercy and compassion towards others.

P. 53, l. 14. **Saint Richard** (1197-1258). The friend and follower of St. Edmund; was educated at the universities of Oxford, Paris, Bologna. He was renowned for his learning and sanctity; after holding the office of Chancellor of the University of Oxford, he was appointed to the See of Chichester. He, too, was a strong opponent of the aggressive policy of Henry III.

P. 53, l. 14. **St. Thomas Cantilupe**; better known as Saint Thomas of Hereford (1219-1282). Studied at Paris and Lyons, and afterwards pursued his study of canon law at Oxford, where he took his degree. He was chosen chancellor of that University, and soon attracted the attention of Henry who appointed him High Chancellor of the realm. On the accession of Edward I. he resigned, and retired to Oxford, but in 1275 he was forced to accept the See of Hereford.

P. 53, l. 15. **Duns Scotus**, a Scholastic philosopher; founder and leader of the famous Scotist School, which had its chief representatives among the Franciscans. He was remarkable for his acuteness of intellect and originality. He died about 1308.

P. 53, l. 16. **Hales, Alexander.** One of the greatest of the Scholastic philosophers, studied probably at Oxford, and later at Paris, where he also taught. He joined the Franciscan Order in 1231. "He was among the first to approach the labour of expounding the Christian system with the knowledge not only of the whole Aristotelian corpus but also of the Arab commentators." He was honoured with the titles of "Doctor Irrefragabilis" and "Doctor Doctorum," but his works possess an historic rather than an intrinsic value. Died in 1245.

P. 53, l. 16. **Occam, William**, English Scholastic divine, a disciple of Duns Scotus, and a Franciscan. He attained great eminence in logic, philosophy and political theory. He was styled "Doctor Invincibilis." Died at Munich in 1347.

P. 53, l. 17. **Bacon, Roger** (1214-1294) studied at Oxford and Paris, and taught later in the Franciscan School at Oxford. As a scholar, Bacon was in advance of his age by some centuries, and was styled by his contemporaries, "Doctor Admirabilis." He ranks among the most eminent scholars of all ages.

P. 53, l. 17. **Middleton, Richard**. Supposed to have studied at Oxford. He took his degree in divinity at Paris, and devoted himself to the study of Canon Law and Theology in which he gained great reputation. His name is inscribed on the tomb of Duns Scotus at Cologne, as one of the fifteen chief doctors of the Franciscan Order. He was known at Paris as "Doctor Solidus et Copiosus." Died about 1307.

P. 53, l. 17. **Bradwardine, Thomas** (1290-1349), surnamed "Doctor Profundus," was educated at Merton College, Oxford. He was Chancellor of the University, and, later, was appointed to the See of Canterbury, but died of the plague forty days after his consecration. Chaucer in his *Nun's Priest's Tale* ranks Bradwardine with St. Augustine and Boethius.

P. 54, l. 13. **Huber, Victor Aimé**, Professor of Western Literature at Marburg. He visited Oxford in 1824, and afterwards wrote a *History of the English Universities* which was translated into English by Francis Newman.

P. 55, l. 6. **Lorraine, Claude** (1600-1682), one of the greatest of French landscape painters. Some of the finest of his work is in our National Gallery.

P. 55, l. 6. **Poussin, Nicholas** (1594-1665), eminent French landscape painter, several of whose pictures are in the National Gallery, London.

P. 56, l. 19. **St. Augustine**, apostle of the English, sent by St. Gregory the Great to preach Christianity in Britain. He was the first Archbishop of Canterbury. Died 604.

P. 56, l. 19. **St. Paulinus**, a monk of St. Andrew's monastery in Rome, sent by St. Gregory, in 601, with Mellitus and others to convey the pallium to St. Augustine, and assist him in his labours. He was made Archbishop of York, but the heathen reaction under Penda drove him from his archdiocese, and he devoted himself to the See of Rochester, then vacant.

P. 56, l. 20. **Pole, Reginald Cardinal** (1500-1558), son of Richard Pole, Lord Montague, and of Margaret, daughter of George, Duke of Clarence, younger brother of Edward IV. Papal legate in reign of Queen Mary, and, later, Archbishop of Canterbury. Author of *Pro Unitate Ecclesiastica*, and other treatises. Dr. James Gairdner says of him: "Seldom has any life been animated by a more single-minded purpose."

P. 56, l. 20. **Fisher, John Cardinal** (1459-1535), educated at Cambridge, and in 1502, made Chancellor of that University. In 1504 he was appointed to the See of Rochester. He was a saintly prelate, zealous, self-

sacrificing and an enemy to compromise. His disapproval of the action of Henry VIII. in divorcing Queen Catherine incurred for him the enmity of that monarch, and he was eventually imprisoned and beheaded on a charge of high treason. He was the author of several devotional and controversial works.

#### PÔRTRAIT OF A GENTLEMAN.

Towards the end of his discourse on *Liberal Knowledge viewed in relation to Religion* Newman draws with inimitable grace and subtlety the following portrait of a gentleman. Definitions, it may be remarked, throw light both forward on the thing defined, and backward on him who defines.

P. 60, l. 23. St. Francis de Sales (1566-1622), Bishop of Annecy. His wonderful spirit of gentle firmness and merciful strength made him beloved by all, and was the secret of his marvellous influence. His *Introduction to the Devout Life* has attained the popularity of a classic.

P. 60, l. 23. Cardinal Pole. See note on p. 197.

P. 60, l. 24. Shaftesbury (1671-1713). Author of *Characteristics of Men, Manners, Opinions, and Times*. His works are characterised by scepticism and great freedom of speculation.

P. 60, l. 25. Gibbon, Edward (1737-1794). One of the most distinguished of English historians. His brilliant and famous *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* has been aptly described as "a masked battery against Christianity."

P. 60, l. 25. St. Basil the Great (331-379). One of the most famous and eloquent of the Greek Fathers. He studied at Athens with St. Gregory Nazianzen. He founded a monastery on the banks of the Pontus, but was afterwards appointed to the See of Cæsarea. He laboured in many trials and much suffering for the good of the Church. Many of his works are extant.

P. 60, l. 25. Julian (331-363) was the successor of the Emperor Constantine. He was brought up in the Christian religion, but he had a secret inclination to paganism, and on his accession to the throne he publicly abjured Christianity; hence his surname, "the Apostate."

#### KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING.

When Newman went to Ireland in 1852 to inaugurate the Catholic University, he gave a series of lectures to the Catholics of Dublin on *The Idea of a University*. His purpose was to prove that knowledge should be pursued for its own sake, that "in a University knowledge and enlargement of the mind are contemplated as an ultimate object. For this object the Science of God is indispensable. Neither professional skill, nor controversy on behalf of religious conclusions is the primary object of a University, but the formation of educated minds and cultivated intelligences." Mr. R. H. Hutton attributed subsequent reforms in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge to the influence of Newman's *Discourses*.

The fact that Newman expressed himself less satisfied with these than with any other of his writings, will enable the reader to estimate how high was the literary ideal he set before him.

P. 65, l. 1. He gathers in by handfuls, etc. See Genesis xli. 47.

P. 69, l. 10. like the judgment-stricken King, etc. An allusion to Pentheus, King of Thebes, whose refusal to acknowledge the divinity of Bacchus was attended with the punishment of madness and, subsequently, death. See *Eurypid. in Bacch.*

P. 70, l. 24. St. Thomas Aquinas (1227-1274), called "The Angelic Doctor." He was a Dominican friar. It has been said that "he brought Scholastic philosophy to its highest stage of development by effecting the most perfect accommodation that was possible of the Aristotelian philosophy to ecclesiastical orthodoxy." Perhaps the best known of his great works is the *Summa Contra Gentiles*.

P. 70, l. 25. Goethe, John Wolfgang von (1749-1832), the most illustrious name in modern German literature. Goethe's best-known works are *Faust*, *Wilhelm Meister*, *The Sorrows of Werther*, and his beautiful lyrics. Carlyle did much to make his philosophical works known in this country.

P. 72, l. 9. Pompey's Pillar. One of the famous monuments of Ancient Alexandria. It is a fine obelisk of red granite, its shaft about 70 feet high, the whole column being nearly 100 feet in height. It bears a Greek inscription in honour of the Emperor Diocletian.

P. 74, l. 9. It is the *τετράγωνος* of the Peripatetic. Among the Peripatetics, or followers of Aristotle, the epithet *τετράγωνος* (square) was used as the symbol of completeness to designate a perfectly balanced mind. Tennyson in his Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington, speaks of him as "that tower of strength, which stood *four-square* to all the winds that blow."

P. 74, l. 9. the "nil admirari" of the Stoic, i.e., the imperturbability of the Stoics, who considered that the perfect man should be unmoved by all the accidents of fortune.

P. 74, l. 11. *Felix qui potuit*, etc. Virgil, *Georgics*, II., 492, *et seq.* "Happy is he who studies the nature of things, who treads underfoot all fear and dread of inexorable fate, and who heeds not the roar of greedy Acheron."

P. 75, l. 28. Salmasius, Claudius (1588-1653). Probably the most famous scholar of his day, and a distinguished Orientalist. In 1631 he succeeded Scaliger in the University of Leyden. He is best known to English readers by his political controversy with Milton.

P. 75, l. 28. Burman. A Dutch family of scholars. Peter, "the Elder" (1668-1741), taught History and Rhetoric at the University of Utrecht, and Greek at Leyden. His nephew, Peter, "the Younger," taught at Amsterdam, and held the office of Keeper of the public library. He edited Virgil, Claudian, Aristophanes and Propertius.

P. 75, l. 29. *Imperat aut servit*. "It is either your ruler or your slave."

P. 75, l. 31. *vis consili expers*, etc. Horace, III., 4, 65. "Strength devoid of counsel falls by its own weight."

P. 76, l. 1. **Tarpeia**. Daughter of Tarpeius, governor of the Capitol under Romulus. She betrayed that place to the Sabines on condition of receiving their bracelets of gold. Tatius, on entering the Capitol, threw his bracelet and shield on Tarpeia, and his followers all imitating him she was crushed to death.

P. 76, l. 11. **Mosheim**, John Lorenz von (1694-1755), learned German divine and historian. His greatest work was his *Ecclesiastical History*, originally written in Latin.

P. 76, l. 11. **Du Pin**, Louis (1657-1719), Doctor of the Sorbonne. Well-known historian and critic. His most important work is the famous *Bibliothèque Universelle des Auteurs Ecclesiastiques*.

### THE BENEFITS OF UNIVERSITY TRAINING.

The following extract is taken from the discourse on *Liberal Knowledge viewed in relation to Professional. (Idea of a University.)* Contrast this with Carlyle's dictum: "The true University of these days is a collection of books."

P. 86, l. 18. **Aristotle** (384-323 b.c.). One of the greatest of the Greek philosophers. He wrote on rhetoric, poetry, politics, ethics, physics, mathematics, logic, and metaphysics, and in each he displayed remarkable genius.

P. 86, l. 18. **Newton**, Sir Isaac (1642-1727). Renowned English philosopher. His most famous work is the *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica*. To his brilliant intellectual gifts Newton added a reverent and religious spirit, great uprightness, and amiability.

P. 86, l. 19. **Raphael** (1483-1520), a famous Italian painter, employed by Pope Julius II. in the decoration of the Vatican. His *Saint Catherine*, and *The Vision of a Knight* are in the National Gallery. Christ Church, Oxford, possesses a fine collection of his drawings.

### LITERATURE.

This lecture was one of a series addressed to the members of the Catholic University, Dublin, in 1852. Mr. Wilfrid Ward writes: "It was the lectures on Literature rather than those on Science which marked a distinct phase in Newman's own style. As the restraint which characterised the *Oxford Sermons* had given place to the far more ornate and rhetorical manner of the *Sermons to Mixed Congregations*, so now a similar change showed itself in the prose essays which he delivered as lectures. The presence of an Irish audience probably contributed to the change. There is in the lectures a suspicion of the copiousness of language which marks the Celt. There is far more of self-expression than in his earlier writings."

How closely Newman's practice corresponded with his theory may be proved by applying to his other work the literary canons he here lays down.

P. 89, l. 1. **Plato** (429-347, B.C.). Illustrious Greek philosopher, a disciple of Socrates. Head of the School of Philosophy known as the *Academicians*.

P. 89, l. 1. **Cicero**, Marcus Tullius (106-43 B.C.), a learned philosopher and the greatest of Roman orators. Newman's own prose style was modelled on that of Cicero.

P. 89, l. 29. **a writer**. Lawrence Sterne (1713-1768). Author of *Tristram Shandy, A Sentimental Journey*, etc.

P. 90, l. 24. **Homer**. See *Iliad*, I., 528, for description of Jupiter.

P. 90, l. 25. **Neptune**. See *Iliad*, XX., 54.

P. 90, l. 25. **the description of a tempest**. Probably the storm described in *Odyssey* V.

P. 90, l. 26. **Pallas's horses**. See *Iliad*, Bk. V., 774.

P. 90, l. 30. **Virgil** (70-19 B.C.), the most famous of Latin poets. Author of the *Aeneid*, *Georgics*, and *Elegies*.

P. 90, l. 30. **Theocritus**. Sicilian poet who lived about 280 B.C. Of his various works only his idylls and some epigrams are extant.

P. 90, l. 30. **Pindar**. Greatest of Greek lyric poets (522-443 B.C.).

P. 91, l. 8. **Longinus**. Celebrated Athenian philosopher and rhetorician of the third century B.C. Only a fragment of his remarkable treatise *On the Sublime* has come down to us.

P. 91, l. 20. **Thucydides**. Famous Greek historian of the fifth century B.C. Wrote a *History of the Peloponnesian War*, in which he had taken part.

P. 91, l. 21. **Herodotus**. Illustrious Greek historian, sometimes styled "The Father of History." He is generally considered to be the most reliable of all ancient historians, despite his love of the marvellous. His style is elegant and musical. Born 484 B.C. and died about 408 B.C.

P. 91, l. 21. **Livy** (59 B.C.-17 A.D.). Famous Roman historian; more remarkable for the beauty of his style than for the accuracy of his facts.

P. 97, l. 7. **A learned Arabic scholar**. See *Position of Catholics in England*, pp. 101-2, where Newman describes how a Mr. White, Professor of Arabic at Oxford, and more remarkable for his scholarship than for his literary gifts, engaged a Devonshire curate to write out his lectures for him in ornate style.

P. 97, l. 33. **Dryden, John** (1631-1700). Distinguished English poet and prose writer. His translation of Virgil was pronounced by Pope to be "the most noble and spirited translation in any language."

P. 98, l. 10. **facit indignatio versus**. "Indignation makes verses." Juvenal, *Satire*, I., 79.

P. 98, l. 13. **Poeta nascitur non fit**. "Poets are born, not made."

P. 98, l. 19. **the vision of Mirza**. Addison's famous allegory appeared in the *Spectator*, 1711.

P. 98, l. 29. **Aristotle**. See note on p. 200.

P. 99, l. 4. **κυδεῖ γαίων**. "Glorying in his strength."

P. 99, l. 35. **Cicero.** See note on p. 201.

P. 100, l. 9. **os magna sonatrum.** *Hor. Sat.*, I., 4, 44. "A voice destined to proclaim great things."

P. 100, l. 14. **mens magna in corpore magno.** "A great mind in a great body." An adaptation of the well-known phrase "mens sana in corpore sano."

P. 100, l. 19. **Scipio,** Publius Cornelius (237-183 b.c.), surnamed Africanus from his brilliant victories over the Carthaginians. As a general he was second only to Hannibal.

P. 100, l. 19. **Pompey.** Gneius Pompeius Magnus. Roman soldier, at first Caesar's friend and ally, but, later, his enemy and rival. He lost the battle of Pharsalia (48 b.c.) and fled to Egypt where he was murdered.

P. 100, l. 26. **Livy.** See note on p. 201.

P. 100, l. 26. **Tacitus.** Roman historian, born about 60 A.D. Remarkable for the purity and elegance of his style and his skill in portraiture. His finest work is his *History of the Reign of Tiberius*.

P. 100, l. 26. **Terence.** Publius Terentius (185-159 b.c.), the eminent comic poet. He was a native of Carthage, and was sold to a Roman senator, who gave him his liberty on account of his genius. He died in Greece.

P. 100, l. 26. **Seneca,** Marcus Annæus, a celebrated orator who settled at Rome, and was greatly distinguished as a pleader. Born at Cordova, Spain, about 58 b.c., died about 32 A.D.

P. 100, l. 26. **Pliny.** Caius Plinius Secundus (23-79 A.D.). Commonly called the Elder. His *Natural History* is one of the most precious monuments left us by antiquity.

P. 100, l. 27. **Quintilian.** M. Fabius Quintilianus (35-95 A.D.). Famous orator and critic. He opened a school of rhetoric at Rome, and acquired great reputation as a teacher. His *De Institutione Oratoria* is, perhaps, the finest system of rhetoric ever written.

P. 101, l. 12. **Isocrates** (436-338 b.c.). Famous Greek orator. Though master of a graceful style he was prevented from public speaking by physical weakness, nor was his thought as valuable as his style.

P. 101, l. 13. **the Sophists.** Those teachers of rhetoric in Ancient Greece who considered form rather than matter.

P. 101, l. 16. **Dr. Samuel Johnson** (1709-1784). Author of *Lives of the Poets*, *Rasselas*, and many other works. In his essay on Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, Macaulay comments on the deliberate manner in which Johnson set himself to write Latinised and grandiloquent English.

P. 101, l. 32. **Michael Angelo** (1475-1564 A.D.). The grandest artist of the Renaissance. Distinguished as painter, sculptor, architect and poet. His finest figures are, perhaps, those of David and Bacchus at Florence, and the Pieta at Rome. His *Last Judgment* is a marvellous proof of his power as a painter.

P. 101, l. 32. **Raffaelle.** See note on p. 200.

P. 101, l. 32. **the Apollo Belvedere.** Famous statue discovered in the fifteenth century; generally considered to be an embodiment of the highest physical perfection.

P. 102, l. 9. **Plato.** See note on p. 201.

P. 102, l. 11. "the poet's eye." See *Midsummer Night's Dream*, V., Sc. I.

P. 102, l. 26. **Demosthenes** (385-325 B.C.). Great Athenian orator, whose eloquence was equalled by his integrity and justice. His most important speech is *De Corona*.

P. 102, l. 27. **Thucydides.** See note on p. 201.

P. 102, l. 28. **Herodotus.** See note on p. 201.

P. 103, l. 8. **Gibbon.** See note on p. 198.

P. 104, l. 32. **Beethoven, Ludwig von** (1770-1827). Born in Bonn. One of the greatest of musical composers, and the pupil of Haydn. Newman was an ardent admirer of his genius; he wrote to Dean Church in 1864, "I had a good bout at Beethoven's quartetts, and thought them more exquisite than ever."

P. 105, l. 19. **St. Jerome.** One of the most famous and learned of the Latin Fathers. He was ordained priest in Rome, 379 A.D., and retired to Bethlehem, where he lived a life of seclusion, study and prayer. He was distinguished for his zeal against heretics, notably the Pelagians.

P. 105, l. 19. **Dante Alighieri** (1265-1321). The great Florentine poet. Author of the *Divina Commedia*, *Vita Nuova*, and other works of immortal fame.

P. 105, l. 19. **Cervantes** (1547-1616). Great Spanish novelist; author of the famous *Don Quixote*.

P. 105, l. 26. **Fra Angelico**, Giovanni di Fiesole (1387-1455), a Dominican friar, and one of the greatest of Italian artists. His best-known picture is the *Coronation of the Blessed Virgin*, now in the Louvre.

P. 105, l. 26. **Francia.** Francesco Raibolini, generally called *Francia* (1450-1517), a distinguished Italian painter and the intimate friend of Raffaelle. The National Gallery possesses his *Entombment of Christ*.

P. 107, l. 3. **Sophocles** (496-405 B.C.). One of the greatest writers of tragedy in Ancient Greece. His best-known works are: *Antigone*, *Philoctetes*, *Oedipus Coloneus* and *Ajax*.

P. 107, l. 3. **Euripides** (480-406 B.C.). Another of the Greek masters of tragedy. Eighteen of his plays are extant, the most famous being *Alcestis*, *Medea*, *Andromache*, and *Iphigenia in Tauris*. Euripides, we are told, rather than Sophocles attracted Newman.

P. 109, l. 1. **copia verborum.** Fluency of language.

P. 109, l. 21. **nil molitur inepté.** Horace, *Art of Poetry*, 140. "He undertakes no aimless task."

P. 109, l. 25. **Quo fit, ut omnis, etc.** Horace, *Satires*, II., 1, 32. "As one's whole life lies open as if inscribed on a votive tablet,"

## POETRY.

Newman's *Essay on Aristotle's Poetics* was written for the *London Review* in 1828, while he was a Fellow of Oriel. The first part assumes a closer acquaintance with Greek Tragedy than the young student, for whom this little book is primarily intended, is likely to possess. It has, therefore, been omitted.

Sidney's *Defense of Poesy*, Shelley's *Defence of Poetry*, and Matthew Arnold's *Essay on Poetry*, might be read in connection with this essay.

P. 112, l. 1. Aristotle. See note on p. 200.

P. 112, l. 8. Bacon, Francis (1561-1625).

P. 112, l. 8. "Poesis nihil aliud est," etc. Bacon, *De Augmentis Scientiarum*, Bk. 2, ch. 13. "Poetry is merely an arbitrary imitation of fact."

P. 114, l. 6. Old Phoenix. See *Iliad*, Bk. IX., 449-453.

P. 114, l. 6. nurse of Orestes in the Chœphoræ. *Aeschylus*, *Chœphoræ*, 736-749.

P. 114, l. 23. Lord Byron. Author of *Childe Harold*, *The Corsair*, *Don Juan*, *Sardanapalus*, etc. (1788-1824). Father Ryder writes of Newman: "I think he could have admired Byron heartily, if his moral disapprobation had allowed him."

P. 114, l. 25. Empedocles. Philosopher, poet and historian, of Agrigentum in Sicily, and the author of a long poem in support of Pythagoras's doctrine of the transmigration of souls. His verses were publicly recited at the Olympic games, together with those of Homer and Hesiod. He lived about the year 444 b.c.

P. 114, l. 26. Oppian, Greek poet of Cilicia; he lived in the second century. Two of his poems have come down to us, five books on fishing, and four on hunting.

P. 114, l. 32. Thomson, James (1700-1748). Author of *The Seasons*, *The Castle of Indolence*, etc. Few poets excel Thomson in his descriptions of natural scenery, though there are times when he descends to the mere commonplace.

P. 115, l. 1. L'Allegro and Il Penseroso. Two of Milton's shorter and most popular poems.

P. 115, l. 10. Virgil. See note on p. 201.

P. 116, l. 6. Peveril of the Peak. One of Sir Walter Scott's novels, and by no means his best.

P. 116, l. 7. Brambletye House, by Horace Smith (1779-1849), appeared in 1826. Its author wrote about twenty novels, the best known of which are *The Moneyed Man*, and *Brambletye House*.

P. 116, l. 12. Edgeworth, Miss Maria (1767-1849). Author of *Castle Rackrent*, and of a series of admirable novels, dealing chiefly with Irish life. It was owing to her rich humour, pathetic tenderness, and admirable delineation of Irish character that Sir Walter Scott was stimulated to do something in a similar way for his own country.

P. 118, l. 2. **Richard.** See Shakespeare's *Richard II.*

P. 118, l. 2. **Iago.** See Shakespeare's *Othello.*

P. 118, l. 4. **Clytemnestra.** In Greek mythology Clytemnestra was the daughter of Tyndarus, King of Sparta. She murdered her husband, Agamemnon, and afterwards married her accomplice Egysthus. Eventually both were put to death by Orestes in revenge for his father's murder.

P. 118, l. 4. **Euripides.** See note on p. 203.

P. 118, l. 20. **Southey.** See note on p. 193.

P. 118, l. 23. **Ladurlad.** The name of a character in Southey's *Curse of Kehama.*

P. 118, l. 23. **Thalaba and Roderick.** Heroes respectively of Southey's poems, *Thalaba the Destroyer*, and *Roderick, the Last of the Goths*.

P. 118, l. 35. **Old Robin Gray.** Lady Ann Barnard's well-known ballad (1771).

P. 119, l. 3. **Milman's Funeral Hymn** in *The Martyr of Antioch*. Milman's drama, founded on the life of St. Margaret, was published in 1822.

P. 119, l. 4. **Bernard Barton's Dream.** Bernard Barton was a Quaker, and a friend of Charles Lamb. Byron and Southey prised his verses, but later critics place little value on them. He died in 1849.

P. 119, l. 6. **Campbell, Thomas** (1777-1844). Author of *The Pleasures of Hope*, *Gertrude of Wyoming*, and several fine ballads, and noble lyrics.

P. 119, l. 6. **Baillie, Joanna** (1762-1851). A writer who attained some distinction, in her own time, as a dramatist.

P. 119, l. 17. **Young, Edward** (1684-1765). Author of *The Revenge*, and *The Brothers*. His *Night Thoughts* abounds in ornate images, and is often obscure in thought.

P. 119, l. 23. **Sic dicet ille, etc.** Cicero, *De Orat.* "He will speak in such a way as to turn one and the same things in various ways, while preserving the thought."

P. 120, l. 13. **Juvenal** (About 40-128 A.D.). Roman satirist. The quality in his poetry to which Newman refers may be accounted for by the fact that Juvenal was a pleader in Rome for some time before he wrote his satires.

P. 120, l. 27. **Crabbe, George** (1754-1832). Author of *The Parish Register*, *Tales of the Hall* and other works. Crabbe could paint a scene with vigour, pathos and originality, but his colouring is sometimes coarse, and offensive to refined minds.

P. 121, l. 28. **Titrus's stags.** See *Virgil's First Eclogue*, 59.

P. 122, l. 1. **Sardanapalus and Myrrha.** The hero and heroine of Byron's tragedy, *Sardanapalus*. Myrrha was an Ionian slave, and the favourite of Sardanapalus, last of the Assyrian Kings, a monarch notorious for his luxurious and voluptuous life.

P. 124, l. 18. **Hume.** See note on p. 187.

P. 124, l. 14. **Rousseau, Jean Jacques** (1712-1778). Celebrated French writer. Among his many works the best known are, perhaps, *Emile* and

*La Nouvelle Héloïse.* *Emile* was condemned by the Parlement of Paris for its attacks on the prophecies and miracles recorded in Scripture. Rousseau was the great apostle of Naturalism.

P. 124, l. 15. **Lucretius, Titus Carus** (95-52 b.c.). Roman poet and philosopher. His *De rerum natura* shows great genius and poetical elegance, but its opinions are justly censured, for he was the devoted advocate of atheism and impiety, and strove to establish the false doctrine of the mortality of the soul.

### WHO'S TO BLAME?

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ATHENIANS, AND PARALLEL CHARACTERISTICS OF ENGLISHMEN.

##### *The Reverse of the Picture.*

THE following passages are taken from a series of letters, which appeared in the *Catholic Standard* in the spring of 1855. Great disasters had befallen the English army during the early stages of the Crimean War. The British public blamed everyone concerned, from the statesmen who entered upon it to the soldiers and sailors who were risking their lives in it. Newman's letters, entitled *Who's to blame?* answered his own question. He pointed out that the British Constitution was itself in fault; that in a self-governing nation officials are necessarily hampered by restrictions; that the liberty of which Britons proudly and rightly boast must be purchased by the sacrifice of greater efficiency. He bade them, therefore, rejoice in their freedom, but remember that, if only because of it, they must think twice before entering upon war.

P. 130, l. 16. **Philip II.**, King of Macedon, displayed great military talents from early youth. Before opposing the Illyrians and Thracians he made war against the Athenians and defeated them. His ambition was to conquer the whole of Greece, and all the eloquence of Demosthenes was ineffectual in rousing the Athenians to resist him. He was assassinated about the year 336 b.c. whilst preparing for an expedition against the Persians.

P. 130, l. 16. **Demosthenes.** See note on p. 203.

P. 131, l. 6. **Pericles.** See note on p. 195.

P. 131, l. 22. **Socrates.** Celebrated Athenian philosopher, who presented a remarkable contrast to his contemporaries by the simplicity and frugality of his life. He endeavoured to effect social reform by recommending virtue, but his independence and powerful influence gained him many enemies. Accused of corrupting Athenian youth, and introducing innovations in religion, he was condemned to death by poison. (468-399 b.c.)

P. 131, l. 24. **Xenophon.** Famous Athenian general, philosopher and historian. His best-known works are his *Life of Cyrus the Great*, and the *Anabasis*, containing the history of the expedition of Cyrus the Younger. As a soldier Xenophon immortalised himself by successfully conducting the famous retreat of 10,000 Greeks, from Cunaxa to Chrysopolis, during the Persian War. (430-359 b.c.)

P. 131, l. 27. **Miltiades.** Succeeded his brother in the government of the Athenian colony in the Chersonese, 513 B.C. He overthrew the Persians at Marathon 490 B.C.; but, later, he was suspected of intriguing with them, and was condemned to death. This sentence was however commuted to imprisonment. He died about 489 B.C.

P. 131, l. 31. **Themistocles**, Athenian general and statesman, fought bravely at Marathon under Miltiades. He made known to the Persian monarch who invaded Greece (480 B.C.) that his countrymen were unwilling to make a stand at sea against the Persians. Xerxes immediately blocked them with his fleet in the Bay of Salamis. By this stratagem Themistocles forced the Greeks to win the famous and decisive battle of Salamis. Like Miltiades, he incurred the suspicion of his countrymen and was banished. (About 514-449 B.C.)

P. 132, l. 1. **Hannibal** (247-183 B.C.). Famous Carthaginian general. Scipio, who conquered him, called him "the greatest general that ever lived." After subduing nearly the whole of Italy, he failed to take Rome, for Scipio advised the Romans to carry the war into Africa, knowing that Hannibal would then be recalled by his countrymen. This stratagem succeeded.

P. 132, l. 7. **Pylos.** The Spartans were defeated by the Athenians at Pylos. (425 B.C.)

P. 135, l. 29. "*Optat ephippia bos.*" Horace. *Ep.*, I., 14, 43. "The ox desires the horse's harness."

P. 137, l. 1. **the sons of Oedipus.** On the death of their father, Etiocles and Polynice agreed to reign alternately each a year. At the end of the first year Etiocles refused to resign, whereupon Polynice made war upon him. Finally the two brothers decided to settle their dispute by single combat. They both fell in an engagement as furious as their hate was bitter.

P. 137, l. 3. **Walter Scott's "Two Drovers."** The reference is to Harry Wakefield, the English drover, and comrade of Robin Oig in *The Two Drovers*, one of the *Chronicles of the Canongate*.

P. 139, l. 17. **Prytaneum.** In Ancient Greece the "Prytanes" were certain magistrates who presided over the senate, and had power to assemble it when they pleased. In the hall in which they met, known as the "Prytaneum," they gave audiences, offered sacrifices, and feasted with those who had rendered signal services to their country.

P. 140, l. 5. **Mahmood.** Founder of the Gasnevide dynasty, succeeded to sovereignty of Khorassus and Bokhara at end of tenth century. By conquest he extended his territory from the Ganges to the Caspian. He was the first Eastern potentate to assume the title of "Sultan."

P. 140, l. 6. **Aurungzebe**, Emperor of Hindustan, known as the "Great Mogul." After putting his two brothers to death, he dethroned his father, and assumed the reins of government. He greatly enlarged his dominions and became the most formidable monarch of the east. He was the last of the energetic sovereigns who sat on the Mogul throne during the seventeenth century.

P. 140, l. 6. **a company of merchants**, etc. The reference here is, of course, to the East India Company which was founded in 1599 with a purely commercial aim, though for purposes of self-protection it gradually assumed a military character. Robert Clive (1725-1774) was sent out as factor, or "writer," in the civil service of the Company, and it is mainly to his brilliant initiative, daring, and courage that Great Britain owes the possession of its greatest dependency.

P. 142, l. 7. **Deus è machina**. A mechanical deity. This is an old Latin expression borrowed from the stage, meaning the forced, unnatural intervention of a god by some mechanical device, in order, as we say, "to save the situation."

P. 145, l. 6. **Aberdeen**, George Hamilton Gordon (1784-1860). Famous politician and antiquarian. Byron calls him "The travelled thane, Athenian Aberdeen." He steadily endeavoured to prevent England from entering upon the Crimean War, but without success. After Peel's death he was the virtual representative of what was known as the Peel Party.

P. 145, l. 6. **Herbert, Sidney** (1810-1861). Lord Herbert of Lea, eminent English politician, Secretary to the Admiralty under Peel, and Secretary of War for a short time during the Aberdeen ministry. After his withdrawal from public life he devoted his leisure to philanthropic and social schemes.

P. 145, l. 7. **Newcastle**, Henry Pelham Clinton (1811-1864). Fifth Duke of Newcastle. Colonial Secretary under the Aberdeen ministrination, and, later, Secretary of War. He was blamed by many for the mismanagement of the war during the first winter in the Crimea, and resigned office, though his successor, Lord Panmure, stated that the later and more successful arrangements were inaugurated by Newcastle.

P. 145, l. 9. **Raglan**, Lord (1788-1855), Field Marshal. Served through the Peninsular campaign, and lost his right arm at the battle of Waterloo. At the outbreak of the Crimean War, he commanded the British army, and the defeat of the enemy at Balaclava and Inkermann was mainly due to his skill.

P. 145, l. 9. **Burgoyne**, Sir John Fox (1782-1871), for some time chief of the engineering department of the British Army in the Crimea.

P. 145, l. 9. **Dundas**, Sir James Whitley (1785-1862), naval commander. For some time in command of the English fleet, during the Crimean War; he joined with the French in the attack on Odessa.

#### THE NORTHMEN.

This was the first of a series of lectures on Turkish History delivered in the *Catholic Institute* of Liverpool during October, 1853, when England was on the point of undertaking war against Russia in the interests of Turkey.

P. 146, l. 1. **the collision between Russia and Turkey**, known in history as *The Crimean War*. England, France and Turkey, were allied against Russia. Peace was proclaimed in 1856.

P. 149, l. 14. the Catholic ritual measures intervals by "a *Miserere*." The time that would be required to recite a *Miserere*, i.e., Psalm 50, *Miserere mei Deus*, etc.

P. 149, l. 14. **St. Ignatius in his Exercises.** St. Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556), founder of the famous Society of Jesus. The *Exercises*, of which Newman speaks, are a series of spiritual reflections and prayers, arranged in logical sequence, and intended for the use of those who wish to further their advancement in the spiritual life.

P. 154, l. 14. **the Czar Peter.** Peter the Great (1672-1725), of whom Voltaire says: "He gave a polish to his people, and was himself a savage; he taught them the art of war, of which he was himself ignorant; from the sight of a small boat on the river Moskwa, he created a powerful fleet, made himself an able and expert shipwright, sailor, pilot, and commander; he changed the manners, customs, and laws of the Russians, and lives in their memory as the "Father of his country."

P. 157, l. 2. **Cyrus**, King of Persia. Son of Cambyses and Mandane, daughter of Astyages, King of the Medes. Died about 529 B.C.

P. 157, l. 8. **Semiramis.** Celebrated Queen of Assyria, supposed to have lived about 1965 B.C. It is said that under her powerful sway Babylon became the most superb and magnificent city in the world.

P. 158, l. 17. **holy Daniel.** See *Prophecies of Daniel*, VIII., 4. "I saw the ram pushing with his horns against the west, and against the north, and against the south; and no beast could withstand him, nor be delivered out of his hand; and he did according to his will and became great."

P. 158, l. 26. **Cyaxares**, King of Media and Persia. He bravely defended his kingdom against the Scythians, made war against Alyattes, King of Lydia, and subjected to his power all Asia beyond the river Halys. Died about 585 B.C.

P. 161, l. 5. **Alexander III.**, surnamed the "Great," son of Philip of Macedonia, one of the greatest conquerors in history, and a man whose character was made up of very noble and very ignoble qualities. He died about 323 B.C.

#### SCENES FROM *CALLISTA*.

"*Callista; a Tale of the Third Century*," was "an attempt," as Newman tells us in his preface, "to imagine and express the feelings and mutual relations of Christians and heathens at the period to which it belongs." Writing of this book Mr. R. H. Hutton said: "I know nothing in all fiction more delicate, more spiritual, more fascinating than the story of Callista's conversion and death." And again, "To me *Callista* has always seemed the most completely characteristic of Newman's works. Many of them express with greater power his intellectual delicacy of insight and his moral intensity, but none, unless it be *The Dream of Geronimus*, expresses as this does the depth of his spiritual passion, the singular wholeness, unity, and steady concentration of purpose connecting all his thoughts, words and deeds."<sup>3</sup>

## THE DESCENT OF THE LOCUSTS.

P. 162, l. 11. **Bochart, Samuel** (1599-1667), Oriental scholar of repute. Author of *History of the Animals of Scripture*, and other works relating to the Bible.

P. 163, l. 12. **harpies**. Mythical winged monsters with face of a woman and body of a vulture. They were said to pollute all that they touched.

P. 166, l. 3. **decurion**. A subaltern officer in the Roman armies, in command of a *decuria*, or company of ten men.

P. 166, l. 12. **Mendes**. A city of Egypt, near Lycopolis. Pan, under the form of a goat, was worshipped there with great solemnities.

P. 166, l. 20. **impluvia**. Reservoirs constructed in centre of the *atrium*, or central hall, of a Roman house, which received rain falling through an opening in the roof.

P. 163, l. 21. **xysti**. Among the Greeks the *xystus* was a portico, or covered gallery.

## THE POSSESSION OF JUBA.

P. 170, l. 1. **Juba**, the son of a Roman soldier, who was nominally a Christian. His mother was a heathen sorceress.

P. 173, l. 28. the **Furies** or *Eumenides*. The daughters of *Acheron* and *Night* or of *Pluto* and *Proserpine*. Their names were *Tisiphone*, *Megara*, and *Alecto*. They were supposed to be the avenging ministers of the gods, their office being to punish the guilty on earth as well as in the infernal regions.

P. 174, l. 6. **Pentheus**, King of Thebes, hid himself in a wood that he might witness the celebration of the orgies of Bacchus, but he was discovered and torn to pieces by the Bacchanals. His story is told in the *Bacchæ*, which Newman considered to be “on the whole the most ~~faulty~~ admirable specimen of the genius of Euripides—not breathing the sweet composure, the melodious fulness, the majesty and grace of Sophocles; nor rudely and overpoweringly tragic as *Æschylus*; but brilliant, versatile, imaginative, as well as deeply pathetic.”

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